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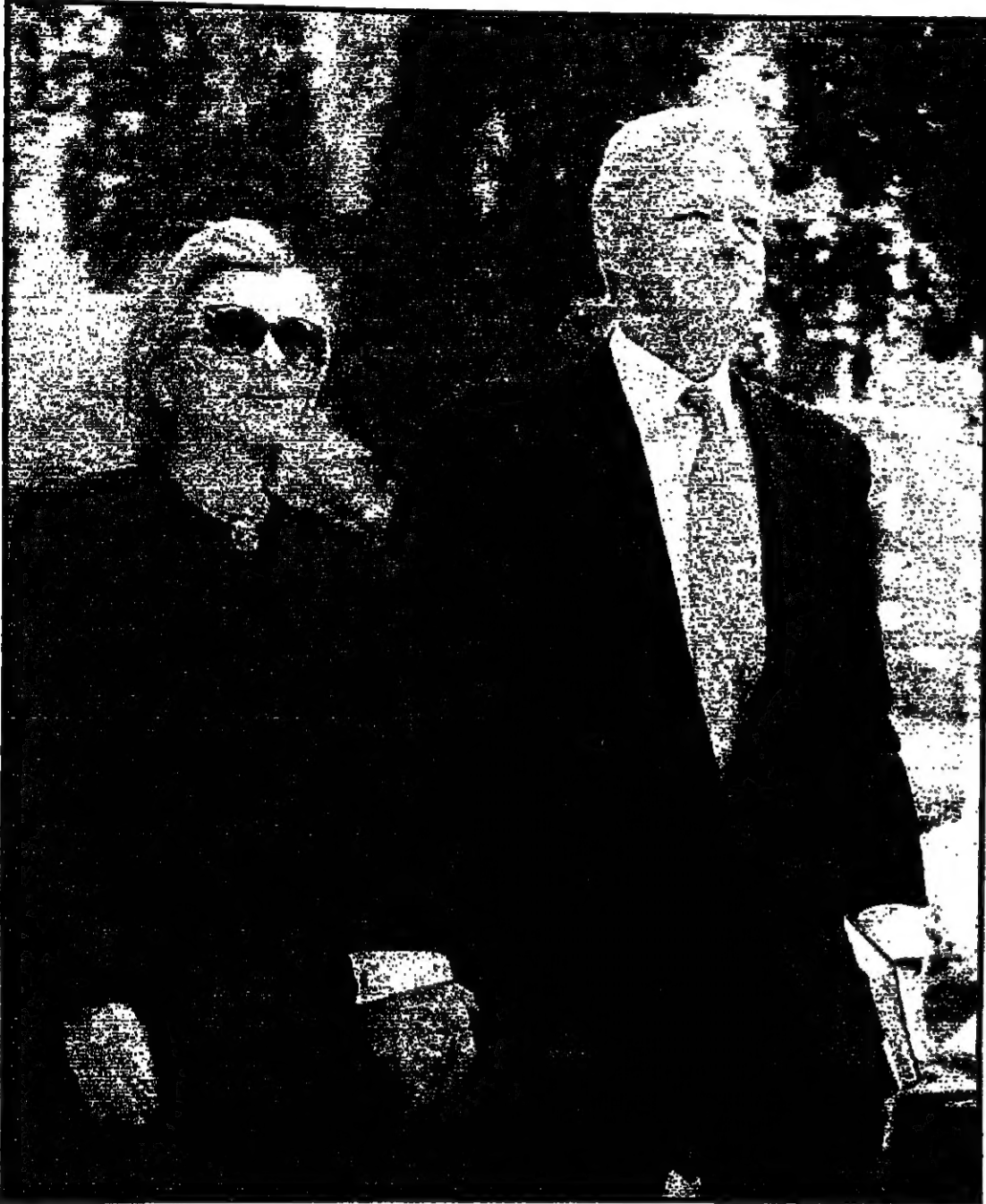


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Aides: In grand jury testimony today

Clinton will admit to improper relationship

By PETE YOST

WASHINGTON (AP) — Becoming the first president ever to face a criminal grand jury, President Bill Clinton today will finally disclose the nature of his relationship with Monica Lewinsky.

"The truth is the truth," his lawyer, David Kendall, said yesterday in a statement, "and that's how the president will testify."

After seven months of standing by his blunt denial of a sexual relationship with the former White House intern, the president was prepared to acknowledge an "inappropriate relationship" with Lewinsky, signaling some form of sexual conduct between them, advisers said.

But one presidential adviser said Clinton would deny he did anything illegal and would say he did not tell anyone else to do anything illegal.

It was an admission certain to prove painful not only to his family, but to the legions of supporters who had vigorously defended the president since January, when the story broke.

"I'd be extremely disappointed and I would feel terrible for Mrs. Clinton and the president's daughter," said Rep. Marty Meehan, a Democrat on the House Judiciary Committee, which would receive any report from prosecutor Kenneth Starr for possible impeachment proceedings.

"I don't think there's any easy way out for him," former press secretary Dee Dee Myers said.

The president's political opponents on Capitol Hill warned they would be watching his words today. If he is not truthful with the grand jury, said Senate Judiciary Chairman Orrin Hatch, a Republican, there "would be a real call for his impeachment."

On the eve of perhaps the most critical day of his presidency, Clinton attended church with his wife, Hillary Rodham Clinton. The couple held hands, and the president clutched his Bible and waved to the crowd. He spent time in the afternoon with his lawyers, preparing his testimony.

As Clinton and his advisers sought a way to limit the depiction of his relationship with Lewinsky to one that was "improper" or "inappropriate," it was learned that prosecutor Starr had amassed evidence of roughly 75 telephone conversations between the president and Lewinsky.

Many of the phone conversations were initiated by Clinton, according to people familiar with the probe.

"This was no one-way relationship," said one of the sources.

The phone calls started in late 1995 and continued through 1996 and 1997, the sources added.

Starr spent part of the day at his offices several blocks down Pennsylvania Avenue from the White House.

Starr and several prosecutors are due at the White House at 1 p.m. local time today to begin several hours of questioning. The extraordinary proceedings were set to be video-transmitted to the 23 grand jurors at the federal courthouse.

It was unclear whether the president would have a statement of any kind after his testimony.

Urging a "statesmanlike attitude" by Starr, former White House lawyer Lanny Davis issued a call for Clinton's secret grand jury testimony to be publicly released after he testifies.

"If the president were to change his story I think he needs to square it with the American people and to the members of Congress. All of us believe that the most important thing the president can do is tell the truth."

Davis predicted fragmentary accounts of the testimony would be leaked if the full grand jury text were not made public and that some of the leaks would be inaccurate.

"If the president changes his testimony and acknowledges an improper relationship here, he obviously is going to have to go through a lot of pain himself, not only in apologizing to his wife and his family, but obviously to the staff and to those that he misled and to the American public," said former White House chief of staff Leon Panetta.

"If the president goes before the grand jury and lies then I think that would be a real call for his impeachment," said Hatch.

Asked if Clinton can save his presidency by telling the truth, Hatch said, "I believe that he can."

President Bill Clinton and his wife, Hillary, arrive at Washington's Foundry Methodist Church for services yesterday, a day before his testimony before the grand jury. (Reuters)

PA manhunt puts Jericho under curfew

By STEVE RODAN and agencies

The Palestinian Police clamped a curfew on Jericho and searched house to house yesterday for escaped prisoner Imad Awadallah, a senior Hamas militant accused of killing bomber Muhd Sharif.

Roadblocks were set up in Jericho and in Ramallah, where Awadallah's family lives, and police searched cars and orchards in Jericho. Police vans drove through the town yesterday afternoon, with officers ordering merchants and residents to return home.

See JERICHO, Page 2

Mordechai: I didn't call for Golan pullout

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN and LIAT COLLINS

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, already stung by reports of a growing rift between him and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, came under heavy criticism yesterday for saying in a foreign press interview that security with Syria depends on the amount of Golan Heights Israel returns.

Mordechai later said his remarks were twisted and taken out of context.

"The interview was recorded. My military aide and spokesman were present. [The published quotes] are simply incorrect," Mordechai said yesterday.

Netanyahu came to Mordechai's defense, saying the entire interview was taken out of proportion. He insisted his relations with Mordechai are close and that, anyway, a resumption of peace negotiations with the Syrians is remote.

"The defense minister and I work as one person, with one heart, in order to advance the important things for the State of Israel. Everything else is merely... journalistic pyrotechnics. It's interesting for a day or two," Netanyahu told reporters after the cabinet meeting.

See MORDECHAI, Page 20

Strashnov questioned by police on Manbar

Jerusalem Post Staff and Him

Tel Aviv District Court Judge Amnon Strashnov was questioned by police for some nine hours yesterday, in the framework of the preliminary investigation into possible irregularities in the trial of convicted traitor Nahum Manbar.

The investigation is being conducted by a special team of national fraud squad officers, headed by Dep.-Cmdr. Miri Golan.

Strashnov gave his evidence at the Courts Administration offices in Jerusalem's Givat Shaul. The site of his questioning — and that he was to be questioned yesterday at all — was kept a secret.

Police refused to answer any questions regarding the content of Strashnov's testimony, or about whether at any point he was questioned under caution.

Presumably he was asked about possible attempts by Pinat Yanai, a former intern of his who later joined Manbar's defense team, to interfere with the judicial process.

Channel 1 reported last night that Strashnov might be questioned again.

Manbar's attorney, Amnon Zichroni, whose petition last month to the High Court of Justice about the possible irregularities launched what has come to be known as the Strashnov Affair, is also expected to testify this week.



Amnon Strashnov (Israel Sent)

Jubilee exhibit free

By HELEN KAYE and LIAT COLLINS

As of last night, admission to the Jubilee Exhibition at the Tel Aviv Fairgrounds is free, and will remain so until the exhibition closes at the end of the month.

The order to eliminate the entrance fee came directly from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Since it opened on August 4, some 80,000 people have visited the exhibition, an average of some 6,600 per night, far less than the 25,000 to 30,000 nightly that organizers had predicted.

There was widespread dissatisfaction with the ticket prices — NIS 25 for adults and NIS 15 for children — which made the event too expensive for many families.

The prime minister explained his decision by saying, "There is a jubilee exhibition only once in 50 years and it's important that all citizens have the chance to see the country's achievements as reflected in the exhibition."

People who bought tickets in advance can get refunds from the agents they bought them from, officials said.

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NEWS

in brief

US balloonist feared down in Coral Sea

US round-the-world balloonist Steve Fossett was feared to have ditched in the sea off Australia yesterday after his ground team reported losing contact and picking up signals from his rescue beacon. A C-130 aircraft from the Australian Coast Guard was dispatched from Sydney carrying survival gear to drop to Fossett if needed.

The ground team lost contact with Fossett's craft over the Coral Sea at 10:23 a.m. EDT, 800 km northwest of New Caledonia. Fossett had travelled 24,460 km — more than half-way in his fourth try to become the first balloonist to fly nonstop around the world — when he ran into a wall of strong thunderstorms. *Reuters*

Gunman killed in clash with SLA troops

A gunman was killed in a clash with South Lebanese Army troops in the Hatzbiyeh region in the eastern sector of the security zone last night. SLA troops on patrol encountered two gunmen, opened fire, and charged at them. One of the gunmen was killed, but the other managed to flee. There were no casualties among the SLA soldiers involved in the incident. *David Rudge*

14 injured in pileup near Motza

Fourteen people were injured last night when a van swerved into the oncoming traffic lane, flipped over and crashed into two cars near the curve opposite Motza on the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem highway, police and Magen David Adom officials said. Four people were listed in serious condition.

The road was closed and traffic was rerouted while the fire department rescue team struggled to extricate four people trapped in the cars. *Amy Klein*

Hussein gives Prince Hassan more authority

King Hussein has given his brother and heir to the throne, Crown Prince Hassan, the authority to shuffle the government, officials said yesterday.

The move comes at a time when the government has come under fire over polluted drinking water and economic recession. Hussein, 63, is undergoing cancer treatment in the United States. A government official said Hussein issued the decree from his hospital bed in the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., giving Hassan more powers.

Hassan, 51, is acting as regent in the king's absence. Another government official said the move "should not be seen in the context of His Majesty surrendering power, but to allow the prince to have the adequate authority to run the affairs of the state in His Majesty's absence." He added: "We should not read a lot into it." *AP*

Norwegian minister to visit Elkana

Norwegian Transport Minister Knut Vollebaek accepted an invitation from Transport Minister Shaul Yahalom to visit the settlement of Elkana in Samaria and meet with residents when he visits Israel. Yahalom, currently on a working visit to Norway and Sweden, reiterated the government's demands from the Palestinians, including the extradition of suspected murderers and reduction of the number of Palestinian Police and their weapons to the agreed-upon levels. *Itim*

PA again closes Joseph's Tomb

The Palestinian Police closed Joseph's Tomb yesterday for the second time in a week, but without explanation. Eyewitnesses said police closed the site in the afternoon to both visitors and the students of the Od Yosef Chai Yeshiva. IDF officers sought an explanation for the PA action, to no avail.

Last week, PA police and yeshiva students nearly came to blows when the PA suddenly announced it was closing the tomb unless renovation equipment was removed. The yeshiva students say they have been increasingly harassed by the PA, while the PA accuses the IDF of trying to reinforce the site. *Steve Rodan and Mohammed Najib*

High Court slams ministry on deportations

The High Court of Justice yesterday issued a restraining order barring the Interior Ministry from deporting three Sierra Leone citizens — who have been jailed since April — until a hearing of their petition is concluded.

In the petition filed by the Association for Civil Rights in Israel, the three claim that if they are returned to their native land, their lives would be at risk. ACRIL is asking that the three be released on bail for six months or until they can be granted entrance to another country.

Justice Dalia Dorner criticized the ministry for not having an orderly bail procedure for illegal residents slated for deportation. The hearing is to continue this morning. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Knesset to convene to discuss economic policy

The Knesset will have a special session next Monday to discuss the government's economic policy. Labor, Meretz and the Likud each gathered the 30 necessary signatures of MKs to convene the meeting during the Knesset recess.

The Labor motion is on "the government's social policy regarding the weaker sectors and unemployed"; the Meretz motion is entitled, "The budget proposal as approved by the government and its ramifications on the continued unemployment and recession."

In the Likud announcement yesterday that it would also seek a special session on the budget, acting Likud whip Ruby Rivlin said, "Since Labor has run up such debts it cannot pay its own workers their July salaries, it should not preach to the Likud government about running the country." *Liat Collins*

Kiryat Shmona man fights city hall with mice

A Kiryat Shmona man, fed up with the mice and rats infesting his neighborhood, brought a box full of the rodents to city hall and released them in various offices.

He released two rats in the office of the urban improvement department. The next stop was the mayor's office, where he released several more. Police arrived and arrested the angry resident. Later he was released but ordered to stay away from city hall for 30 days.

"This is not the way to solve problems," Kiryat Shmona Mayor Haim Barbir said. But municipal exterminators were dispatched immediately to the man's neighborhood to deal with the rats. *Itim*

JERICHO

Continued from Page 1

It was the first time the Palestinian Authority imposed a curfew on its own people, although it was in effect only in the center of town and not strictly enforced. Still, locals accustomed to such curfews during years of Israeli control rushed to stock up at bakeries before going home.

Israeli soldiers joined in the hunt, setting up roadblocks on Israeli-controlled roads leading out of Jericho and elsewhere in the West Bank.

Israel Radio reported that Palestinian Police had arrested 15 Hamas activists in connection with Awadallah's escape.

PA security sources said Awadallah escaped from his Jericho prison cell at about 7 p.m. on

Arafat: No more useless talks with Israel

By STEVE RODAN and LIAT COLLINS

Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat said yesterday he cancelled a meeting with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's envoy, Yitzhak Molcho, to stress he is no longer interested in what he termed useless talks with Israel.

Netanyahu told reporters yesterday he is interested in continuing the peace process and said contacts would probably resume this week, although he is scheduled to start a week's vacation in the North today.

Arafat told MK Dedi Zucker and other Meretz MKs in Ramallah yesterday that he cancelled the meeting Israel had requested with Molcho on Saturday night to demonstrate his lack of trust in the Netanyahu government.

"Arafat doesn't see virtually any chance for progress," Zucker said. "He doesn't know how long he can control the Palestinian street."

Labor MK Ofer Pines said Arafat also warned that unless the peace process advances significantly he will proceed with plans to declare an independent state next May.

"His message was very clear," Pines said. "He said the peace process is in a deep freeze. He is very concerned over his loss of control over his own people. I asked 'Do we have to wait for a new intifada?' He didn't respond directly, but he made it understood that anything could happen."

Arafat did express anger at the escape from a Palestinian Authority jail of top Hamas terrorist Imad Awadallah.

"The man is very dangerous for both us and you. I have ordered the arrest of the security servicemen who were responsible for looking after him in prison," Arafat said.

According to Pines, Arafat said if there is no progress on the interim arrangements and diplomatic process he would "have no option but to take this step" and declare a state next year. He also said a Palestinian state would be established at the end of the negotiations on the final-status arrangements.

Ahmed Tibi, Arafat's adviser on Israeli affairs, said the opposition MKs had asked for the meeting for an update on recent negotiations.

Netanyahu said after the cabinet meeting that, "Certainly there is goodwill on our side to try to move the process forward... If the Palestinians show equal goodwill I'm confident we can move the process forward and indeed bring it to rapid conclusion."

General Security Service chief Ami Ayalon reportedly told the cabinet the Palestinians are not interested in there being a terror attack at present, but that Arafat erred in not condemning the murders of two settlers at Yitzhar two weeks ago. While noting Arafat had condemned past attacks, he said Arafat is not concerned about possible fallout from the attack at Yitzhar.

Gov't to erect barrier to prevent car thefts

By LIAT COLLINS

The security cabinet yesterday adopted a proposal by Internal Security Minister Avidgor Kahalani to erect obstacles along some 80 kilometers of the Green Line in an attempt to reduce car thefts.

The obstacles would not run in an unbroken line, apparently because ministers thought this would be perceived as establishing a border along the Green Line.

A similar proposal was made to the Labor government by the previous internal security minister, Moshe Shahal.

The Green Line stretches along some 324 km, although parts of it have natural obstacles hindering the movement of vehicles.

Among the new obstacles being considered are boulders, ditches, security barriers and unspecified "technological means."

Aerial photographs will be taken to determine where best to place the barriers.

Kahalani also demanded an additional 2,000 soldiers to beef up patrols in the area.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu asked Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman and Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai to work with Kahalani to prepare a plan to finance the additional manpower, and submit it in two weeks.

The obstacle project reportedly has already been allocated a budget.

Kahalani later met with top police brass, including Insp.-Gen. Yehuda Wilk and instructed them to work with the IDF to draw up an operational plan.

Saturday. However, Hamas sources said they fear the 29-year-old Awadallah was killed by the PA in jail and the authorities fabricated the escape story to explain his disappearance. This concern was also voiced by Hamas spiritual leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin.

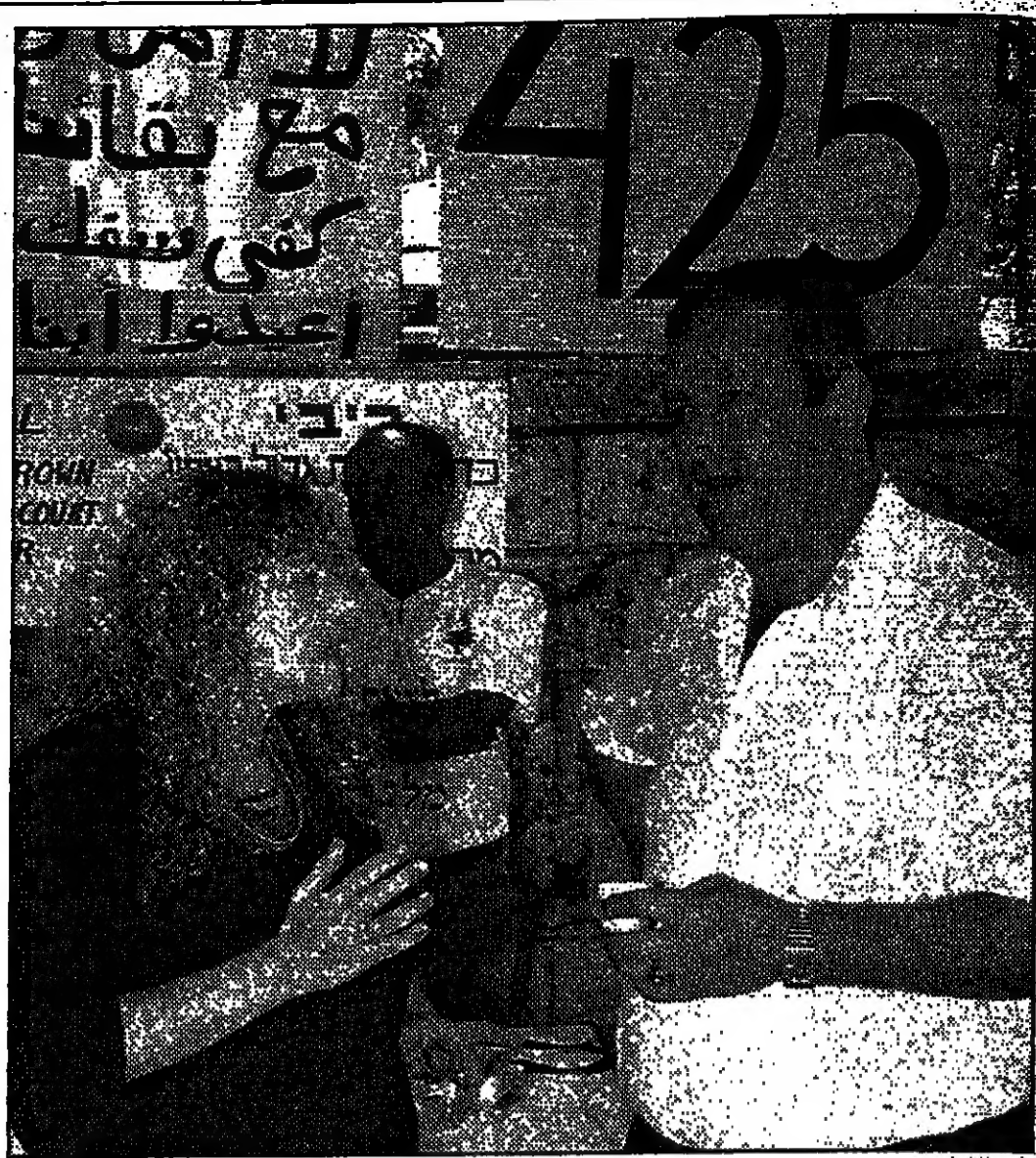
Awadallah is the brother of Adel Awadallah, who is suspected of planning the Jerusalem bus bombings in early 1996 and is still at large.

PA Chairman Yasser Arafat has ordered an inquiry into the escape, to be headed by PA West Bank police chief Brig.-Gen. Haj Ismail Jabber.

"From the minute that Awadallah was reported missing, an inquiry was launched," Jabber told reporters. "We don't have any knowledge [of how he escaped]."

PA security sources asserted that Awadallah was not being mistreated. They also said they suspect he escaped in a car with Israeli license plates.

PA security officials yesterday searched Awadallah's home in El Bireh. At the same time, IDF troops searched in Area B, which is under Israeli security control.



For withdrawal from Lebanon

Four Mothers Movement member Yona Rochlin (left) speaks with Hadash MK Salah Salem at a demonstration yesterday opposite the prime minister's residence in Jerusalem calling for an immediate IDF pullout from Lebanon. (Kevin Ungar)

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Bye, Shai

Shai Bazar, Prime Minister's spokesman, yesterday said he would resign from the Likud to head independent

Netanyahu independent

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu yesterday said he would resign from the Likud to head independent

Kiryat Shmona, former director of the Prime Minister's Office, said he would resign from the Likud to head independent

The agreement, which would allow the Likud to continue its operations in the West Bank, was signed by Netanyahu and

Netanyahu's decision to resign from the Likud to head independent

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Bye, Shai

Shai Bazak, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's outgoing spokesman, bids adieu to staffers and reporters yesterday as the premier looks on. Bazak has been appointed consul-general in Miami. Netanyahu praised Bazak, thanked him for his work, and told him 'not to forget Jerusalem' while he is in the US. Bazak said he is confident he is leaving the premier in the good hands of his successor, Aviv Bushinsky.

(Text: Liat Collins; photo: Flash 90)

Netanyahu opposes supporting independent candidate in Tiberias

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu came out yesterday against an agreement, allegedly signed in his office on Friday, for the Likud to field independent candidate Benny Kiryati for Tiberias mayor.

Kiryati is backed by Avigdor Lieberman, former director-general of the Prime Minister's Office.

The agreement infuriated Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, whose brother Moti is claiming the Likud's mayoral nomination in Tiberias.

Moti Mordechai contended in the Likud primaries in Tiberias and lost to Zion Fainian. However, Fainian then withdrew his candidacy and accepted the No. 2 slot on Kiryati's list, which the Likud allegedly agreed to support on Friday.

During a two-hour meeting with Netanyahu on Friday afternoon, Yitzhak Mordechai reportedly accused the prime minister of acting against his brother to hurt him and his position in the Likud.

Moti Mordechai said yesterday the principles of democracy and fair play obligate the Likud to field him as its candidate in Tiberias.

"Standards of honesty and credibility demand I should be the Likud's candidate since I got almost 50 percent of the votes, instead of a candidate who is not a Likud member, isn't a Tiberias resident, and comes from Tel Aviv," he said.

The defense minister, who until now had stayed out of the municipal elections, did not refer to his brother directly, but criticized "undemocratic norms" in general. "If improper norms are exercised, which are unacceptable both democratically and morally, it's my duty as a senior cabinet minister and senior Likud figure to warn against them and not let them happen," he said.

The incident aggravated the tension between Mordechai and Netanyahu, who had just clashed over who deserved the credit for the rescue mission to Kenya.

Another point of friction was the national unity talks between Netanyahu and Labor Party leader Ehud Barak. In the event of a unity government, Mordechai could lose his position to Barak.

According to certain Likud sources, the prime minister's staff invited Kiryati and Fainian to sign the agreement Friday in Netanyahu's presence.

But Netanyahu reportedly "fumed" when he learned of the agreement, which apparently was signed in a room adjoining his bureau.

"I will not approve of agreements made without my knowledge, behind my back. I was not part of this agreement and am not bound by it," Netanyahu said.

The Likud spokeswoman denied reports that Kiryati and Fainian had been invited to Netanyahu's office to sign the agreement and said the two "happened to be in the Prime Minister's Office already, so

decided to sign the agreement there. The prime minister and Likud ministers in charge of the municipal elections oppose it."

Labor panel votes to change primary system

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

A Labor Party committee yesterday recommended modifying the primary elections for the party's list of Knesset candidates so that the party's central committee or convention takes part in them, together with the party members.

At the end of a stormy meeting, Labor's primaries committee voted 22-11 to change the existing primaries system, in which the party's Knesset list was elected by all the party's members.

The committee did not decide on the exact procedure for selecting the candidates, agreeing only on the general principle.

One possible alternative could be that the first 10 on the list are elected in primaries and the rest by a party institution, or that 20 candidates on the overall list are elected in pri-

maries, and the rest by the central committee or the convention delegates.

The party's standing committee is to prepare the proposal and pass its recommendation to the Labor Party convention for approval.

Labor Party leader Ehud Barak said he was against cancelling the primaries, but his people are reportedly lobbying to change the system.

Barak will have more power over the Knesset list if part of it is elected by the central committee, in which Barak's supporters have a majority.

"It's sad that Labor today began following in the footsteps of the Likud [which did away with primaries last year]," said MK Haggai Merom, the primaries committee chairman.

"Do we want Labor's delegates to be in constant fear of the party's institutions? It's not logical, it damages the democratic atmosphere

we created, and it obstructs the ability of as many party members as possible to take part in the primaries."

Merom said he and other MKs committed to the primaries will fight to prevent the system's cancellation.

But Haifa Labor branch secretary Yisrael Savion, who supported the decision, said "we're not following in the ways of the Likud. We're introducing the necessary amendments to form a united, consolidated party, so that we can return to power. The party institutions should have more of a say in the process."

Party secretary-general Ra'anana Cohen noted the decision was "merely a recommendation," and estimated the convention will ultimately recommend retaining the primaries system, "which promises a large, pluralistic and democratic party."

Golan residents mixed on Mordechai remarks

By DAVID RUDGE

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai has no place in the government or the Likud if he favors withdrawal from the Golan Heights in return for peace with Syria, Katzrin Local Council head Sammy Bar-Lev declared yesterday.

Bar-Lev, a member of the Likud, was reacting to comments reportedly made by Mordechai in an interview with the German magazine Focus that the "depth of security [in a peace accord with

Syria] would equal the depth of withdrawal [from the Golan]."

"We from the Golan Residents Committee take a very grave view of his comments and if this is his position, he has no place in the Likud or the government," said Bar-Lev.

"We realized we had a problem with him not more than three weeks ago when the whole cabinet, including the prime minister, supported the bill for strengthening the Golan Law and he [Mordechai] was the only Likud minister who was not present for

the vote.

"But to say something [as was reported], which is totally opposed to the government's guidelines and the position of the Likud, he should look for another home ... such a stance is tantamount to abandoning Israel's security, its water sources and the Golan, which is an integral and vital part of the state," said Bar-Lev.

In contrast, Yigal Kipniss, a resident of Moshav Maleh Ganula on the Golan and founder of the Derech Leshalom movement,

which favors territorial compromise in return for peace with Syria, welcomed Mordechai's reported comments.

"Yitzhak Mordechai has joined the respected ranks of responsible people who are really concerned with Israel's security and future and not just their position in the public opinion polls who, with all their fondness for the Golan Heights realize that real peace with Syria and thereby peace with Lebanon... can only be reached at the price of territorial compromise," Kipniss said.

Mordechai's having a hot summer

At a time when the defense minister's hand-picked candidate for chief of staff, Lt. Gen. Shani Mofaz, is

showing leadership and stature, his benefactor is taking a blow.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai is finding himself in a tough position this August. His casual remarks on the Golan Heights to a German weekly made some call the former major-general a traitor to the Likud.

His own Likud Party then cut a back-room deal against his brother Moti, who is running for mayor of Tiberias. Some claim the move was a swipe at the defense minister.

All this took place under the shadow of Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's secret negotiations with Labor Party leader Ehud Barak over a national unity government; something which could cost Mordechai his beloved defense portfolio.

What does the future hold for Mordechai?

According to political commentator Hanan Crystal, Mordechai is trapped.

"Mordechai has had a problem ever since April 7, when he obligated himself to resign from the government if there was no redeployment. He keeps getting presented in different ridiculous forms. Suddenly it became clear to him that if... the redeployment he is pushing for [happens] then a national unity government is likely to be formed."

Crystal said that any national unity government between Labor and Likud would find Netanyahu "automatically transferring the defense portfolio to Barak."

Mordechai has repeatedly said in public that he intends to stay in his post until elections, but the new political situation puts him in a double bind.

ANALYSIS

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

"What is Mordechai going to do now?" Crystal asked.

"Push for a redeployment so that

Barak, whom he can't stand, to put it mildly, can be the defense minister?"

But author Ze'ev Chafetz, a commentator on domestic affairs for The Jerusalem Report, does not believe Mordechai is putting his political well-being before the security of the state.

"He is one of the straight guys in Israeli politics," Chafetz said. "I wouldn't say Mordechai has a surplus of creative juices, but he has a lot of character. He very well may not want a national unity government, but he is not the kind of guy that will torpedo it to save his own position."

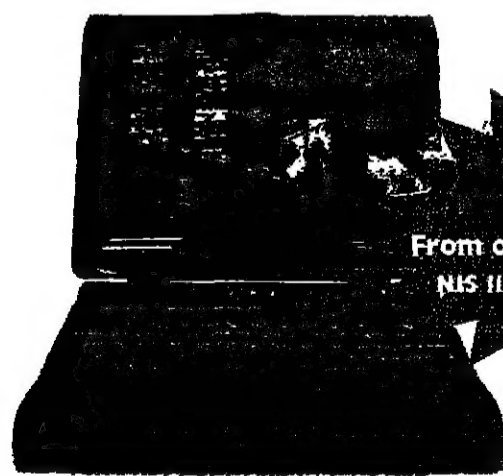
As defense minister, Mordechai enjoys the traditional popularity and support that goes with the job. But just how well he would do in a right-wing primary today is questionable.

"He'll have some problems. The Likud has become an orthodox, fundamentalist party. But I don't think he'll make the compromises and I don't think he is ready, like other politicians, to sell out his own views to enhance his own political career," Chafetz said.

Mordechai has other alternatives, Chafetz said. He could join forces with David Levy, Ronni Milo' or even the Labor camp without compromising his politics.

"There are two games in Israeli politics: musical chairs and spin the bottle," Chafetz said. "Mordechai could lose his chair to Barak, but in the bigger game they play spin the bottle. Some people in the government want to be kissed by everyone. Other's don't want to kiss anyone. Mordechai is in the position of everyone wanting to kiss him."

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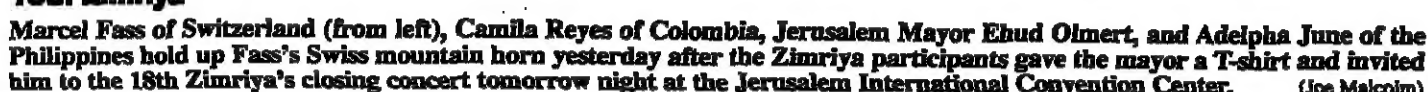
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Herschson added that the \$1.25 billion agreement with the Swiss banks is only the tip of the iceberg.

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هكذا من الاصل

55.1 מיליון

Matza warns against health cuts

By JUDY SIEGEL

Health Minister Yehoshua Matza has called a meeting of the heads of the four health funds in his office today to warn them against cutting services.

All of the insurers have told their members of immediate plans to reduce services, especially by cutting afternoon and late-night hours, and even to require couples who want a second child by in-vitro fertil-

ization to go through a special committee.

The ministry said that Matza would take serious steps against the health funds if they cut services, including refusing to grant approvals for various requests. While the health funds' financing for 1999 has not yet been settled, "they got what they needed for the rest of 1998," a ministry spokesman said, so they have no justification for cutting services.

The TEREM (Urgent Medical Care) pri-

vate clinics in Jerusalem said they would offer their services to health fund members who could not get immediate care in the afternoons or nights because of cutbacks.

The TEREM clinic in the Magen David Adom station is open 24 hours a day. The clinics at Kikar Shabbat (2 Rehov Yehzekel) and on Rehov Gedud Ha'ivri are open daily from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. TEREM has not raised its charges, which remain NIS 75 per person and NIS 40 for

children up to age six.

Meanwhile, *The Jerusalem Post* learned that the ministry spent NIS 1.25 million on its pavilion at the Jubilee Exhibition in Tel Aviv. This was one of the lowest budgets of a government pavilion, deputy director-general for information Yair Amikam said. He attributed the disappointing attendance at the exhibition to the hot weather, the high admission fee (NIS 25), and the public's changing leisure habits.



Pedestrians pass by the soon-to-open Yesha Ze Kan store at the corner of Jaffa and King George in Jerusalem yesterday. (Brian Heller)

Settlers bid to defeat boycott with store in capital

By AMY KLEIN

Bumper sticker predictions can come true. Yesha, the Hebrew acronym for the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip, has appeared for years on bumper stickers in the declaration "Yesha ze kan" (Yesha is here). For Jerusalemites, Yesha is indeed about to arrive.

A gift store called Yesha Ze Kan is set to open by week's end in a choice downtown location at the intersection of Jaffa and King George. The store will offer products manufactured in the territories, as well as house an art gallery with works created by West Bank and Gaza artists.

The man who launched the store and one of its 20 investors, is Eyalan Hirshfeld, of Ramat Gan, who says he created the store to offset sanctions imposed against goods made in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Last September, Gush Shalom (Peace Bloc) campaigned throughout Israel to boycott products made in the territories, saying that buying

them is a step against the peace process.

Last May, the European Union began investigating whether goods produced in the territories could receive a "Made in Israel" label. They are still considering whether these goods are eligible for the tax exemptions granted Israeli products under EU-Israel trade agreements.

"When I read about Gush Shalom's and the EU's actions, I got very upset," said Hirshfeld, 54, a businessman who has been an active volunteer in the council. "It reminded me of Germany in the 1930s, when Nazis said 'Don't buy from the Jews, don't sell to the Jews.'"

In the last two months Hirshfeld raised NIS 600,000 from 20 investors, who reside within the Green Line, to fund the 190 sq. meter, two-story store. Six people are to work in the store, and investors say they will give it a year to prove itself.

The store is not officially connected to the council and any profits will return to investors. Although Yesha Ze Kan will not conduct polit-

ical events, "Yesha" bumper stickers and diaries will be available.

"This is a business," said Hirshfeld. "We all plan to make money on this." The store will sell any goods manufactured in the West Bank, including toys, crafts, books, puzzles, small pieces of furniture, carpets, and wines.

If the first store is successful, they will open additional Yesha Ze Kan stores across the country, Hirshfeld says.

Gush Shalom's Uri Avnery said the organization might demonstrate against the store next week, but for now they officially welcome it.

"It shows that the settlers are separate from Israel, isolated even in their own eyes," he said. "People who want to support the settlements can buy there, and people who believe the settlements are destroying Israel will be helped, because it will be easier to identify the products."

To date, Gush Shalom's boycott list identifies over 100 products manufactured in the territories.

Youth march against shore development

By DAVID RUDGE

Scores of youngsters began a nearly 190-kilometer-long march yesterday along the length of Israel's Mediterranean coastline to protest against real estate development on the beaches.

The march, which started at Rosh Hanikra, is being organized by the "Trailblazer Group" (Hug Siur) of the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel (SPNI).

A SPNI official said the aim was to increase awareness of the need to preserve beaches in their natural state for the benefit of the public.

"There's less than 50 km. of bathing beaches out of the 189 km. from Rosh Hanikra to Nitzanim, south of Ashdod, which are accessible to the general public," said one of the organizers of the protest march.

"Even this little bit is being threatened by proposed massive development projects, including marinas, shopping malls and hotels and apartment buildings," he said.

The trailblazers staged a demonstration at the Betzet Beach north of Nahariya, putting cartoon models of skyscrapers in the sea to show what the coast would look like in the event of development there.

They are expected travel from Acre to Haifa aboard boats of the Sea Scouts. The demonstrators will be dressed as pirates and intend to carry out an act of piracy by "stealing" sand from the beach.

"It is intended as an act to symbolize what real estate developers are doing - stealing the beaches from the public," said one of the demonstrators.

The marchers will be joined on their route by members of conservationist groups and other youth organizations concerned with preserving the coastal environment.

They are due to conclude their march at Nitzanim on August 25.

NEWS in brief

Netanyahu sends Blair condolences

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu yesterday sent his British counterpart Tony Blair a letter of condolence following the attack in Northern Ireland on Saturday. Netanyahu expressed "profound shock at the terrible act of murder and devastation."

"We here in Israel are only too keenly aware of the human suffering and the havoc caused by those who perpetrate these destructive acts with the aim of dealing a mortal blow to the prospects of peace. As you stated so aptly immediately after the event, the perpetrators of such crimes must not be allowed to wreck what the seekers of peace are trying to build and they must be pursued to the utmost."

"I wish to convey, in my government's name and my own, my heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and my best wishes for a speedy recovery of the injured," Netanyahu wrote. *Liat Collins*

Policeman charged with abusing his wife

A police officer was charged yesterday in Jerusalem District Court with beating his wife severely and threatening to kill her several times.

One morning, the policeman returned home from his night shift and heard his wife arguing with his daughter; in his anger, he punched her in the head, tried to choke her and threatened to kill her. Later that afternoon, he threatened her life again, saying he would pour acid on her and kill her "in stages, slowly but surely." At one point, he warned her that if she sat on the new living room furniture, he would "break her in two and bring her on a stretcher straight to the cemetery."

A Jerusalem Police district spokesman said a committee would meet shortly to discuss the accused's future with the police. *Itim*

Girl assaulted when she came to babysit

An 18-year-old Acre girl told police yesterday that she had been sexually assaulted by two men after one of them convinced her to babysit for his children.

The girl said that the father, 28, called her and asked her to babysit. She turned him down at first, but after he called several times, she agreed.

When she got to his home, he and his friend were waiting in front in his car and asked her to get in. They then took her to the local soccer field and sexually abused her, she said.

The two men were arrested and freed on bail. *Itim*

Northern officials stage sit-in at army base

Community leaders from several northern border towns forced their way onto an army base near Biranit yesterday and said they plan to stay there until either Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai or OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Gaby Ashkenazi meets with them.

The demonstrators are protesting what they said are plans by the Treasury to cancel tax breaks and special allocations, including funding to help weaker high school pupils. *Itim*

Window cleaner, two others die in accidents

A 22-year-old window cleaner died yesterday afternoon after falling from the second floor of a building on Rehov Hanatziv in Tel Aviv. The victim was identified as Doron Shabaz.

Another person was killed and four others were injured in a traffic accident at the southern entrance to Jenin around 7 a.m. yesterday. Three victims were seriously injured and one was injured lightly. None of their names were given.

Meanwhile, the body of 26-year-old Talia Tieger, a hiker who had disappeared near Sdom, was found early yesterday morning at the foot of a cliff.

She had been hiking with a group of friends on Shabbat afternoon and then headed back to their car to wait for them while they were rappelling.

When her friends returned to the car around 7 p.m. they could not find her and contacted police. Members of Aard's Civil Guard rescue unit, assisted by the IDF, found her body some seven hours later.

On Saturday night at the Tel Aviv Luna Park, Rafi Orfeli's wife and children were lightly injured in a collision of two roller coaster cars. Yesterday, he accused the park's staff of being unresponsive and refusing to assist the injured.

"The ride stopped and I heard my wife screaming and no one paid attention to her. The place was run by children who were talking on cellular phones when they should have been working and who didn't deal with the incident," said Orfeli, who had been waiting by the ride while his wife and children were on it.

"I saw my [six-year-old] daughter get hit in the face and I ran toward her. No one else tried to rescue them," he told Army Radio. *(Itim)*

Conservationists blast rash of wolf killings in Golan

By LIAT COLLINS

Five wolves in the Golan Heights have been found dead within a week, leading conservationists to express concern over the future of the population of the endangered species.

Among the dead wolves were two cubs which had been shot to death and an adult wolf, fitted with a research transmitter, which apparently was poisoned. The other two had been run over, although it is not clear whether this was done deliberately.

Over the weekend, the cattle farmers on the Golan Heights stepped up their public attack on the wolves, telling reporters that the wolves are threatening not only livestock and wildlife but also Golan residents.

Sheffi Mor, head of the cattle farmers union, told Israel Radio yesterday that there had been no wolf attacks on humans, but that two or three heads of cattle are killed by wolves a night, amounting to economic damage of more than NIS 1 million a year.

Cattle farmers submitted a proposal for

creating a park for wolves, based on similar parks in the US, Canada and Europe, to Environment Minister Rafael Eitan, *Itim* reported.

The director of the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel, Eitan Gadalyon, said such statements are an attempt to create public fear and prepare the ground for killing the wolves.

Just over a month ago, poisoned bait, which Golan cattle farmers apparently put out against the wolves, resulted in the deaths of a large number of animals,

including about a third of the entire local vulpine population.

The adult wolf who apparently was poisoned at the end of last week was called Golan and was part of a research project on the wolf population and habits aimed at finding environmentally friendly solutions to the cattle farmers' complaints. Although Golan's body was found without any external signs of physical damage, the transmitter fitted to a collar had been removed, which is a sign of human involvement.

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Two girls cry on each other yesterday near the scene of Saturday's bombing in Omagh, Northern Ireland. Several badly wounded victims are still fighting for their lives. (Reuters)

Leaders vow to keep N. Ireland peace process going

OMAGH, Northern Ireland (Reuters) — Survivors of Northern Ireland's deadliest bomb blast fought for their lives yesterday as politicians promised to keep the province's fragile peace process alive.

British Prime Minister Tony Blair interrupted his holiday in southern France to fly to Northern Ireland, while Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern convened an urgent meeting of his security experts.

The death toll from Saturday's massive car bomb in the town of Omagh, 80 km. west of Belfast, rose to 28 by yesterday morning, police said.

Nine of the dead were children. At least 220 people were wounded, many critically.

Surgeon Dominic Pinto said the initial scene at County

Tyrone Hospital, where some of the survivors were taken, was like a battlefield. Doctors and nurses did not know where to start treating the horrific injuries.

"At the end of the day it saddens me to think that people perpetrate such atrocities. I just want to appeal to these people and say 'what have they gained by doing this?' It is their very own people that they are injuring and maiming," Pinto said.

Police said the blast's impact was maximized by a misleading telephone warning, which directed evacuees toward the car where the explosives were planted.

No group has yet claimed responsibility but politicians have pointed the finger of blame at dissident republican groups opposed to the Good Friday peace agreement signed last

April, that aims to end 30 years of Catholic-Protestant strife in the British province.

Royal Ulster Constabulary chief Ronnie Flanagan said the task force would concentrate its investigations on a dissident group known as the Real IRA.

"No stone will be left unturned until we bring these people to justice," he said. "They are out to murder people for the sake of murdering people."

Police and soldiers sealed off the wrecked shopping street overnight and forensic scientists prepared to sift the wreckage for clues to the bombers' identity.

Television reports said Protestant paramilitary groups planned to meet in secret yesterday to decide whether to break off their cease-fire and seek revenge against Catholics for the bombing.

Northern Ireland's First Minister, Protestant David Trimble, called on all sides in the province to avoid retribution.

"Above all, I call on any individual or group seeking retaliation to think again. Not only would it be wrong, it would be foolish," he wrote in the *Sunday Mirror*.

The omens for future cooperation looked bleak just hours after the blast, when Trimble said the massacre could have been avoided had the Irish Republican Army (IRA) handed in its arsenal of weapons and explosives.

Gerry Adams, leader of the IRA's political wing, Sinn Féin, issued an unprecedented condemnation of the bombing but it remains to be seen what effect this will have on Trimble, who refuses to sit at the same table as his Catholic counterpart.

Pakistan hands over bombing suspect to Kenya

By AMIR ZIA

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — A suspect in the recent bombing of US embassies in Kenya and Tanzania was arrested in Pakistan and handed over to Kenya, the Pakistani Foreign Ministry said yesterday.

A brief ministry statement said the suspect, identified as Mohammed Sadiq Howaida, was arrested and interrogated soon after his arrival from Nairobi at the airport in Karachi, Pakistan, on August 7 — the day of the nearly simultaneous bombings that killed 257 people in both countries.

The US Embassy in Islamabad refused immediate comment. On Saturday, US authorities in Washington had said CIA agents were headed to Pakistan to question the man.

The Foreign Ministry statement identified Howaida as an "Arab national," a phrase in Pakistan that usually means someone from anywhere in the Middle East.

A Pakistani government source, who insisted on anonymity, said that investigators suspected a link between Howaida and Saudi multi-

millionaire Osama bin Laden, who has been living in neighboring Afghanistan for the last two years.

US officials say bin Laden, a vocal critic of the US who has been among the world's most militant sponsors of terrorism, was a possible suspect in the African bombings.

The source said US investigators who traveled to Karachi were denied access to Howaida. Pakistani officials carried out the interrogation and decided to fly him to Nairobi on a Pakistani plane and turn him over to Kenyan instead of to US authorities, the source said.

The US investigators followed on another plane, he said.

When Mir Aimal Kasi, a Pakistani later convicted in the US of killing two CIA employees, was arrested in Pakistan last June in a joint FBI-Pakistani operation, angry Pakistanis accused their government of groveling before US power.

Pakistani newspapers, who identified the suspect by a slightly different name, Mohammed Sadique, reported he was detained in Pakistan as he tried to slip into

Afghanistan.

The national newspaper *The News*, quoting unnamed government sources yesterday, said the suspect confessed to planning the bombings. *The News* said he had received help in Kenya from sympathizers with connections to Egypt's Islamic Jihad organization.

Several groups use the name Islamic Jihad.

Before the bombings, a group known as the Islamic Jihad, considered the successor to the groups that assassinated Egyptian President Anwar Sadat in 1981, reportedly vowed to strike American interests because some of its members were arrested in Albania.

The government source said the suspect was detained at first because immigration officials noticed he did not match his passport photograph. When he tried to bribe the officials, he was arrested, the newspaper said.

The source said Howaida told his interrogators several conspirators who left Nairobi a few days before he had already passed through Pakistan into Afghanistan, as he had planned to do.

Congo rebels advancing towards Kinshasa

MATADI, Congo. (Reuters) — Rebel forces are advancing on a position 150 km southwest of Kinshasa, capital of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, after seizing two key southern ports, a rebel commander said yesterday.

Commander Dieudonne Kabengele said rebels had taken control of the ports of Matadi and Boma, dismissing government claims they were still in the hands of troops loyal to President Laurent Kabila.

"We are advancing and our forces are now approaching Mbanza Ngungu," Kabengele, commander of the rebel Matadi brigade, told Reuters.

"The advance towards Kinshasa is on several fronts. We have been fighting in some parts on the way but in other parts forces are rebelling and joining us," Kabengele said. "We should be in Kinshasa within a week to be sure."

Rebels already controlled the key Inga hydroelectric power dam 50 km from Matadi, which supplies power to the capital Kinshasa and neighbouring Congo's capital, Brazzaville, the commander said, rejecting government assertions that it controls Inga.

The dam also supplies power to important copper mines in Shaba province.

Witnesses told Reuters after flying with rebels to Matadi that 300 rebel troops had flown into a large rebel resupply base at Kinshasa and were moving overland to Matadi.

"Reinforcements are pouring in from the east," said one after a Russian-built troop transporter landed yesterday.

Hundreds of foreign nationals have begun leaving the Democratic Republic of the Congo capital, drawing expressions of surprise from President Laurent Kabila's administration, which is playing down the rebel threat to the city.

'Vision of hell' in Sudan

KHARTOUM, (Reuters) — Ireland's Minister of Foreign Affairs David Andrews, currently visiting Sudan, described the famine in Southern Sudan yesterday as a "vision of hell."

"We saw dead children, we saw women dying. It is like the vision of hell," he said.

The Irish minister appealed to both the Khartoum government and the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) to respond to the people's suffering and end fighting in southern Sudan.

"This is my message: Lay down your arms, burn them, do what you will, but for goodness sake, and for the sake of the people, bring the conflict to an end," Andrews said.

Sudan has been suffering in a civil war pitting the SPLA, who say they want more autonomy for the mainly Christian and animist south, against Khartoum's Islamist government.

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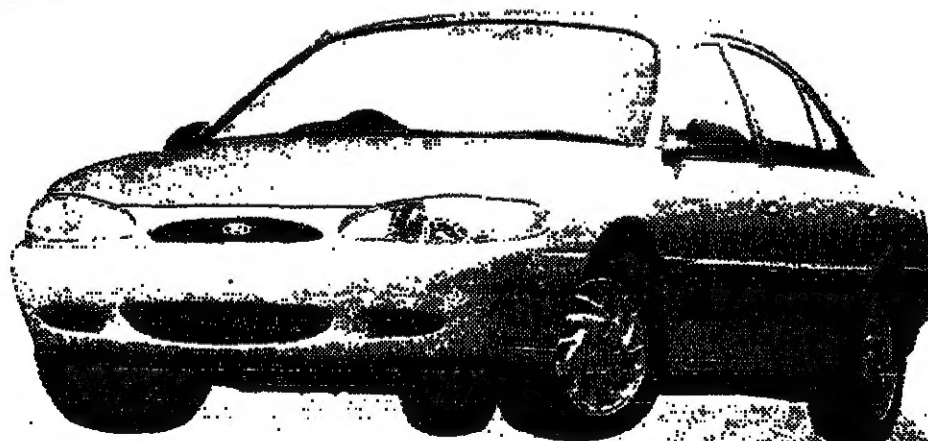
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A Tall Poppy blossoms

By HELEN KAYE

Envious Australians call someone who's made it a tall poppy. Kelly Hartog's hopelessly named Tall Poppy Theatre Company will make its debut at ZOA House on August 27 with *Two*, an award-winning play by award-winning Australian playwright Ron Elisha, who's also a practicing physician.

"I've been carrying the play around for years, waiting for a chance to do it," says actress/director Hartog, who plays Anna, one of the two characters in the drama. The other is Rabbi Haim Levi, played by Jerusalem-born Palestinian actor Sami Kamal.

The play takes place in a small town in Germany in 1948. Anna, who wants to emigrate to the brand-new state of Israel, comes to Rabbi Haim to learn Hebrew. As they pore over the books, study music and the nature of language, each discovers the other's terrible and painful past.

"The play is essentially about good and evil," Hartog has written, not so much of the triumph of one over the other, but of their nature as a "single, inseparable entity." The substance of those arguments about good and evil were very controversial, and got Elisha in some trouble with the Jewish community when the play (revised from the earlier 1982 version), premiered in 1984. Today, says Hartog, "the play is required reading in Australian high schools."

It speaks of, and underscores, the need for fellow human beings to find a way to accept each other, whether it's Germans and Jews or Arabs and Jews. Weighty subject matter, Hartog agrees, but adds that "there's a lot of humor in this play. It's a first for me to be able to work with a playwright, and it's been wonderful. I'd call Elisha and ask him what he meant by this or that phrase, and he kept saying 'Don't get bogged down in the words.' It's important to get the humor across. Even if the material is heavy, you don't have to be heavy-handed doing it."

That *Two* has only a cast of two and a minimal set makes it an admirable first choice for a brand-new professional English-language theater "with zero funds," says Hartog. The performance at ZOA House is a benefit for the Australian victims of the Maccabiah Games bridge disaster, and the Australian Zionist Federation is sponsoring the production.

The performance also hopes, unabashedly, to interest local producers and directors because Tall Poppy was created to bring professional English-language theater to the wider Israeli public, not just English speakers.



Rabbi Haim Levi (Sami Kamal) makes a point to Anna (Kelly Hartog) in the Tall Poppy Theatre Company's debut, *Two*. (Mel Brickman)

and if you do nothing, you go to seed.

"I didn't find classes, either, and we hope to set up classes, too. It's very frustrating that I can't take a class because the more you work, the more you learn. The more passionate you are about theater, the more you suffer withdrawal when you can't get it."

Not that she suffered too long. Hartog immigrated from Sydney in 1994, and "ran straight into the bosom of JEST," as she has put it. There she rapidly established herself as an actress and especially as a director with successes such as the inventive *Universal Language*, *Woman in Black* (which also won kudos in Dundalk in Ireland), and *Sylvia*. Last year she created *The Maccabiah Games* for the Tel Aviv Community Theater.

Hartog, 34, was born in the UK but her parents emigrated to Australia when she was seven months old. She claims that her theatrical career started the night she was born, a dramatic entrance as a fire was raging at the back of the hospital. Professional training

followed the usual school appearances as flowers, toads and "a show-stopping daisy in *Mary Poppins*."

Thin, vibrant, and equipped with a dry sense of humor and great bone structure, Hartog quickly had a career on stage, film and TV. Roles included Jocasta in *Oedipus Rex* and the jailer's daughter in *The Two Noble Kinsmen* at a Sydney repertory theater, and she also belonged to a team for Theater Sports, a type of competition built around theater improvisation. It's one of the groups Hartog hopes to start under the auspices of Tall Poppy.

Apart from its inherent hopefulness, she chose the name because "it's attention-getting and because it's easy to say in Hebrew."

Tall Poppy is not the first professional English-speaking theater here. There have been sporadic attempts over the years, most notably the English Theater Company whose ambitious first (and only) production was Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*, directed by the late Leonard

Schach. The 1991 Gulf War closed the show a day or two after it opened, and mismanagement, to put it politely, administered the coup de grace.

Actor/director Michael Schneider, sometimes alone and sometimes with a couple of other actors, presented *The Best of Shalom Aleichem* to tourists for some seven years in the late Seventies and early Eighties. More recently, Zippora Peled's Jerusalem Stage Players billed itself as a semi-professional company and performed at the Jerusalem Khan, the only English-language theater that had any kind of agreement with a local repertory company. And there is talk about establishing an English-language theater at the Simta Theater in Old Jaffa under the leadership of Canadian-born director Jack Messinger.

Meanwhile Tall Poppy will unfurl its first blossom with *Two*, co-directed by Caron Tal. If local producers don't want to distribute the show, "we'll use whatever money we make to put it on other places," Hartog promises.

formance, as he does not like to record in a sterile studio out of context.

For a conductor who has been performing Bach on a regular basis, it is amazing that Rilling has not gotten involved with the "authentic early music" movement. But he has avoided it for a reason.

"If you try to establish a situation [when] no one really knows how it sounded, then you also have to be able to recreate the people of the time. What they did and how they played was aimed at the audience of their time."

"We do music for the people of our time and we should not forget that. We have to look for expression and ideas relevant for this day and age; we need to search what Bach himself wanted to express."

"After all, his Passions, for example, speak about very relevant human problems of love, hate and despair. These are the important things and it can be achieved better with today's instruments."

But there is more than Bach to both Rilling and Hanssler. The company has other leading musicians on its roster, performing a wide repertoire ranging from Bach to contemporary music.

Rilling, with his choir, has conducted most major choral works from Monteverdi to Verdi and has even commissioned new works, most notably the *Requiem for Reconciliation*, premiered three years ago by his choir and the IPO in Stuttgart, a work in which 16 composers from countries involved in World War II contributed a movement each.

Soon there will be performances, and presumably a recording, of a new mass by renowned contemporary Polish composer Krzysztof Penderecki. Since Rilling and his choir generally visit Israel once every two years or so, hopefully we will be able to hear this new mass even before it comes out on a Hanssler disc.

Entire Bach canon to be issued on CD

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

The year 2000 will mark the 250th anniversary of the death of Johann Sebastian Bach.

For the occasion, Hanssler, the relatively small German disc label, has recently announced its Edition Bachakademie, a very special edition of the entire Bach canon to be released on 160 CDs, about half of which will be new recordings and half coming from the already vast Hanssler catalog.

The overall artistic leader of this mammoth undertaking will be Helmuth Rilling, one of the leading choral music conductors in the world who, with his own Gaechinger Kantorei choir from Stuttgart, has already recorded a huge number of masterpieces by Bach and other composers.

During his recent visit to Israel, conducting his own choir in concerts with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra last spring, Rilling spoke about the exceptional work done at Hanssler.

"It's a very good small company which was created as a publishing house and now has become a very important record label," he explained.

"Hanssler is a family company. The owner is now 68 and his three children run the business. Their emphasis is on a company with a personal style and touch and it pays off."

"For me it's ideal to work with them because I can discuss many projects and do literally what I want. It is a dream many musicians yearn for but only a few can achieve."

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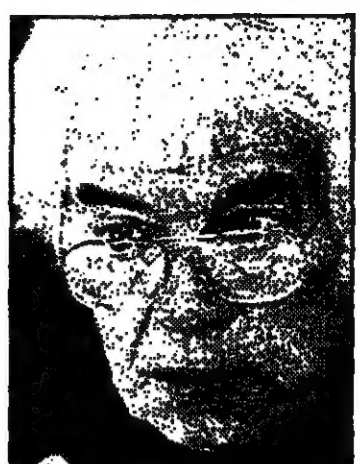
RILLING says that although the classical disc industry is in trouble these days, "Hanssler is in good shape and I don't see a reduction in disc sales."

Neither does he see it in concerts in Stuttgart or in Oregon, where he has established the Oregon Bach Festival with its own chorus and orchestra for performances. Eventually, he hopes Hanssler will record the major choral masterpieces of the repertoire.

Rilling is most prolific, often recording more than one disc per month. Most of these recordings are done live, or in sessions immediately after a concert per-

formance, as he does not like to record in a sterile studio out of context.

For a conductor who has been performing Bach on a regular basis, it is amazing that Rilling has not gotten involved with the "authentic early music" movement. But he has avoided it for a reason.



Helmuth Rilling (A.T. Schaefer)

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Ken Loach's 'Song' remains the same

Movie Review



By Adina Hoffman

Driving a double-decker Glasgow bus in the early scenes of *Carla's Song*, Robert Carlyle has the alert, quick-tempered bearing of a pugnacious elf. His character, George, is a good man whose reckless generosity keeps getting him into trouble with his employers; he has already been warned several times for handing



An Englishman abroad: George (Robert Carlyle) confronts guerrillas, revolution and government plots in Nicaragua.

missing lover. His feelings for her are strong enough, in other words, for him to risk giving her up.

Veteran British director Ken Loach's new movie is alternately powerful and problematic, epic and jerky, lovely and over-literal. Shot in the filmmaker's typically unadorned, almost documentary style and reliant on improvised-sounding dialogue, the movie is strongest when Loach and screenwriter Paul Laverty are not trying to make a political point. Indeed, the quiet first half of the film, set against the grayish backdrop of Glasgow, may be the most tender hour that Loach has ever shot, and

at some level one may wish that he had been content to leave the traumas of Carla's past up to our—and George's—imagination, to let the film unfold as a rough sort of love story, or an honest examination of the pains of cultural displacement.

But the dynamic between the big-hearted little bus driver and the terrified refugee shifts considerably with the film's palette (which brightens) and tone (which darkens) when the action moves on to Central America, and the romance gives way to a familiar-feeling historical tract, about the evils of US support for the right-wing Contra rebels. As he did with much more

subtlety in his last movie, *Land and Freedom*, about the swamp of the Spanish Civil War, Loach sends his naive blond hero into the middle of a messy, confusing, foreign situation, and uses his innocence and idealism as a blatant device to draw us in and offer a civics lesson.

Loach's aims, to be sure, are entirely admirable, but his didacticism grates—all the more so since, in this particular instance, the message (that the CIA was directly responsible for causing a great deal of unnecessary bloodshed in Nicaragua) is rather old hat. In addition, George's gradual understanding of the situation doesn't serve the drama so much as Loach's pedantic aims. The picture

is, in this sense, a simplistic set up—a fairly cheap way of reiterating how clueless an uninformed, do-gooder English speaker can be when it comes to guerrillas, populist revolution and government plots.

Though the film's force drops off significantly in the second half (the later parts of the script are both clunky and full of logical holes), the Nicaraguan sections are not a complete bust. Scott Glenn gives a startling, raw performance as an especially angry aid worker, Cabezas has an understated and genuine-seeming grace as Carla, and Carlyle works valiantly to make George a real, unpredictable person—despite Loach's desire to use him as a mere educational tool.

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Her only and much loved daughter Amy comes to visit in order to introduce her boyfriend Dominic, a handsome and ambitious young man. From the moment Emma and Dominic meet, their mutual hostility is palpable and incessant. Emma, a famous but unfortunately unemployed actress, believes in the magic of the theater, what it has to say and its attraction for its true lovers. In contrast, Dominic, who sees himself as a representative of the younger generation and its spokesman, maintains that the theater has had its day and only continues to exist as an outdated and inept form of expression. In his opinion and that of others like him, it has been successfully replaced by television and cinema. The gap between the two widens, encompassing personal and family feelings and differences in perspective and it appears to be unbridgeable. A painful gap between mother and daughter is also created with Amy torn between her love for her mother and for Dominic. Behind the apparently cultural debate lies personal anger and frustrations that erupt in moments of crisis.

From the critics:
"...I've seen this play at the National Theatre in London, with Judi Dench in the leading role. The Israeli production is better, warmer and more exciting."
(Michael Handelman, *Ha'aretz*)

"...The magic is revealed through convincing performances... manages to charm, without showing the sweat... The acting is good, Shiri Golan has a great deal of power, Gil Frank is excellent. Alex Ansky makes the role well and Elisha Michael and Alon Neumann produce good performances... the jewel in the crown is Jitta Monte."
(Shosh Weitz, *Yediot Achronot*)

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out free transfers to the needy and other small infractions when a dark-eyed, wild-haired, Spanish-speaking woman slips onto his bus without paying. An inspector happens to mount at that point, George defends the stowaway, opens the door to let her escape and soon finds himself suspended.

George is a pale, irreverent clown of a Scotsman and Carla (Oynka Cabezas), a lonely, troubled Nicaraguan refugee who trembles at the mere mention of her homeland. These two, to be sure, make an odd couple. But gradually, a relationship develops between them, and as Carla's violent past begins to slip into focus, it becomes clear that the benevolence demonstrated in the opening are about to be put to the ultimate test. Deeply in love with Carla, he decides to accompany her back to war-torn Nicaragua (the year is 1987), to search for her

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Long road to peace

Comparing and contrasting progress in the Oslo process and the peace accord in Northern Ireland has long been a staple of international news analyses. The car bomb that on Saturday ripped through the marketplace of Omagh, Ulster, taking the lives of 28 innocent civilians, underscored the fact that the more terrible and tragic comparisons between the two conflicts are valid as well.

The sight of the carnage, destruction, and wounded bodies in Omagh certainly brought back too many painful and searing memories of similar scenes in Israeli cities. We who have felt first hand the emotional anguish involved in searching for a loved one who might have been near a bomb blast, and the fear of knowing that we are all vulnerable to being the sudden victims of a random act of terror, can only extend our sincere condolences to the people of Northern Ireland and hope they will find a way to continue seeking peaceful dialogue despite the terrorism.

The similarities between the situation here and what is termed "the troubles" in Northern Ireland are familiar to many. In both cases differences of ethnic, religious, and national identification among people inhabiting the same land have been the source of seemingly endless strife. The conflict between the English and the Celts has roots going back over 800 years, as many Irishmen with long memories are apt to remind a visitor. Although the struggle between Jews and Arabs only goes back about a century, the tendency both sides here have for quoting ancient holy texts as authoritative sources of justification for their actions also make it seem as if it has existed forever - long memories are certainly not in short supply in the Middle East. Ideologically uncompromising positions, conspicuous and loud public demonstrations, and of course organizations bent on causing grievous violence and destruction are familiar sights in both places. The combination of modern explosives with organized elements possessed of a single-minded desire to kill and maim innocent civilians have produced since the late 1960s in Israel and Northern Ireland societies in which individuals regard searches of handbags in public places and the closing of streets due to suspicious objects as normal parts of daily life.

To be sure, there have also been differences. In Northern Ireland there are no outside radical states seeking to undermine peace in order to further their own ambitions. Neither are there holy sites or massive refugee problems involved. Most pointedly, the national survival of neither Britain nor the Irish Republic is at stake. It is the existential quality of the Arab-Israeli conflict - and the Palestinians regard it as an existential struggle no less than Israelis - that has made it so intractable. Many commentators also point out that, within the context of a United Kingdom slowly devolving powers to its outer provinces, a

European Union raising questions about the meaning of national sovereignty, and general prosperity on both sides of the Irish-Ulster border, many of the old ideologically fueled passions that had once raged on the island of Ireland suddenly do not seem as relevant as they once did.

Nevertheless, back when the Oslo agreement was signed it looked as if the Arab-Israeli conflict would be ended before Catholics and Protestants in Northern Ireland would get around to resolving their differences. Back in those euphoric immediate post-Oslo days, there were even those who suggested that the warring sides in Northern Ireland come here to learn a thing or two about peace-making, and the late former president Chaim Herzog's name was frequently mooted as a possible mediator in Ulster.

All that was reversed when a series of horrid suicide bombings in Israeli cities struck a devastating blow to the Oslo process, from which it still hasn't recovered. Meanwhile, the Irish Republican Army announced a moratorium on terror attacks, US mediator George Mitchell arrived in Northern Ireland, and both the Irish and British prime ministers boldly concluded the historic Ulster accord in April this year. The accord was very complex, creating several new institutions - such as a North-South Council and an East-West Council - to enable the simultaneous existence of close links with both Dublin and London. It nevertheless still managed to win overwhelming approval in binding referendums in May. The sight of Catholics and Protestants sitting together to govern the strife-ridden province in their newly elected Northern Ireland Assembly caused many to rub their eyes in disbelief.

And yet, even in those euphoric moments, voiced were heard warning that the difficult part was still ahead. The arrangement arrived at was a solution among moderates. Radicals on both sides rejected the accord, in a land with a long history of splits every time leaders adopt moderate stances. After the defiant Orangemen march in Drumcree last month, observers held that it was only a matter of time before a radical splinter Catholic group resorted to mass violence.

The terrorist act in Omagh was the single worst atrocity in the Northern Ireland troubles in the past 30 years. The fact that casualties were increased by a false warning meant to crowd civilians in the shopping district where the bomb was laid made it particularly gruesome. It remains to be seen whether Saturday's bomb blast will lead to retaliatory Protestant acts of terrorism, and whether the peace process in Ulster will manage to forge ahead despite the violence, or instead succumb to demoralization in public opinion caused by the renewed strife. In any event, it is clear that in Northern Ireland, as here, the road ahead towards peace is difficult, long, and strewn ahead with obstacles.

Counter-missionaries

YOSEF GOELL

Last week, my wife and I took our children and grandchildren on a family heritage trip, in which we tried to recreate our first experiences in Israel.

We started with a boat ride from Kishon Harbor along Haifa Port where we had landed as "illegal immigrants" from the US more than 50 years ago. Besides our clan of 14, the boat was full of haredim and their large families. This was the last place in the world I would have expected to find so many haredim, until I recalled that the three weeks after Tisha Be'av were vacation time for yeshiva students, including the family heads among them.

Later, on our trip through Upper Galilee we continued to encounter many haredi families vacationing in moshav B&Bs. What struck me even more was the great excitement and pride many of the haredi fathers on the boat evinced. Obviously, they had not served in the army themselves, yet they took pride in explaining to their children the armaments carried by the

tremendous social pressure to keep the few mavericks in their midst, who may toy with the idea of not stirring their national duty, in line.

Such meetings with haredi men in the street - and with haredi women, more and more of whom are entering the secular work world in order to support their large families - provide constant warnings against stereotyping.

There are major changes going on in the haredi world, although most are not yet more than underground rumblings.

WE ARE all aware of the growing rift between the haredi world and the rest of Israel. There is also much talk, some sincere, some self-serving and some merely inane, of the need to forge a new Jewish national unity that will encompass all Jews.

I believe that striving for some form of unity through diversity between haredim, national religious, traditionalists and secular Jews is a desirable and urgent need. Many haredim who are flirt-

Some haredi rabbis are a catastrophe for the Jewish people in the modern world

Israel navy missile boats which passed in the harbor.

The sidelocked and bearded fathers who were proudly explaining the differences between the different kinds of navy vessels reminded me of similar haredi fathers I had encountered in the Ammunition Hill memorial park in Jerusalem who exhibited similar pride and expertise in telling their children about the artillery pieces and tanks on exhibition there.

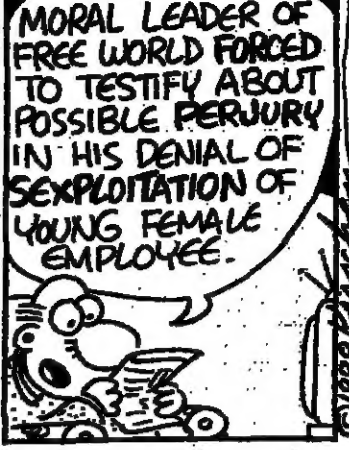
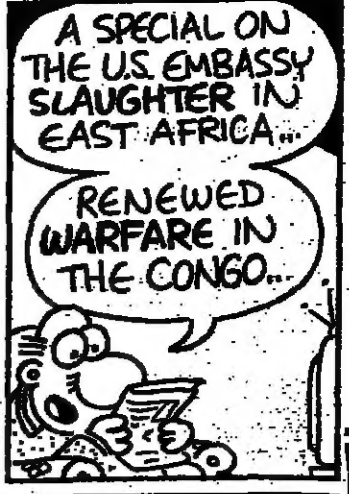
Despite the efforts of many apologists for the haredim to assert that many haredi men do serve in the army the truth is that extremely few do. Of even greater importance is the fact that the rabbinical and political leaders of the various haredi communities are consistent in bringing up their youngsters to abhor the army, and in applying

ing with aspects of modernity are certainly candidates for such a modus vivendi, as are many secular Israelis who are appalled by the more vacuous aspects of the rampant cultural Americanization that is swamping Israel.

The real problem is the haredi rabbis and their political henchmen, who are intent on preserving for themselves and foisting on the rest of Israel a medieval way of life that was already untenable in pre-Holocaust Europe.

Haredi rabbis who educate their flocks against the Zionist state of Israel, against any basic sense of Israeli patriotism, against serving in the army and against working to support themselves and their families, are the counterparts of the haredi rabbis of the first part of this century who opposed not only Zionism but

Dry Bones



also Jewish emigration from East Europe, and were thus responsible for so many of their followers being trapped by the Nazi Holocaust.

Most secular Israelis are leery of confronting rabbis head-on. But these rabbis and what they preach are a catastrophe for the Jewish people in the modern world, whose changed realities they refuse to acknowledge.

It is a mitzva to fight them tooth and nail and to conduct an unremitting kulurkamp against what they preach.

If it were merely a matter of struggling as a beleaguered minority to preserve their own way of life on their own turf, one could argue that in a heterogeneous, democratic society minorities should be entitled to preserve their own culture.

but theirs is an aggressive campaign to impose their life styles and beliefs on the rest of us. And all of this has been funded by billions of shekels from the treasury of the secular modern Israel they abhor.

This fully legitimizes a secular counter-campaign to "missionize" haredim - especially the young - to choose to join the modern Jewish-Israeli world, and to drive home the determination to stop the major subsidizing of haredi institutions "cold turkey," unless they educate towards participation in a modern, Zionist Israel.

This is exactly the policy that has been in force towards the Arab Arab minority. Policy towards the haredim, once a changed political reality permits, should be based on a similar approach.

Buggy about 2000

ZIV HELLMAN

Exactly 1,000 years ago, the turn of the millennium was accompanied by both hope and great trepidation in Christian Europe. The expected imminent coming of the savior brought out predictions of impending Armageddon in the best of the fire-and-brimstone tradition. Many in the late 900s sold their possessions in the belief that the world was about to end.

As befits our more advanced "Age of Technology," the four horsemen of the Apocalypse are this time around said to be arriving at our doorsteps by coming over the Internet. Some of the assessments of the potential impact of the computer glitch that has come to be known as "the year 2000 bug" - or Y2K in the cult style favored by the technologists - are indeed worthy of the great end-of-the-world calamity hysteria that have periodically gripped humanity.

Predictions of a 70 percent chance of world-wide economic depression and bank account records vanishing into thin air are only the tamer of the genre. The gloom and doom prophecies take off from there to include extreme disruptions in the supply of utilities and food, simultaneous global airplane disasters and random firings of nuclear-tipped ballistic missiles. This has been great news to the survival equipment industry, which had been in a slump since the fall of the Soviet empire. New orders for bomb-shelters, canned food and firearms have been pouring in by frightened citizens, mostly in the western US states, planning to go

underground on December 31, 1999. One half expects that Hollywood will soon jump on this bandwagon, producing horror films based on Y2K disasters once it tires of dinosaurs and falling meteors destroying New York City.

With all the attention being paid to the high-tech end of our lives, scant notice is being given to other year 2000 "bugs" that will undoubtedly be quite irksome, if not exactly disastrous. The tempta-

tion to save effort by using only two digits to refer to a year is not limited to computer programmers. Think, for example, of all those medical forms, inter-office memos, check-books and reams of other paper documents that will have to be thrown out because the dates on them are already pre-printed with 19__.

There are reportedly large inventories of headstones bearing the digits 19__, ordered in advance by pessimists who under-estimated their life-spans.

Nor are any of us yet prepared for the shock our language is going to go through at the stroke of midnight, New Years Eve 2000. Getting used to seeing a date writ-

With all the attention being paid to the high-tech end of our lives, scant notice is being given to other year 2000 'bugs' that will undoubtedly be quite irksome, if not exactly disastrous

back to just using solely a number to refer to years, or will we now forever prefix them with the fragment "the year", as in "we plan to conduct the wedding in the year 2005"? As long as we are on the subject of what years will be called, why is 2005 referred to regularly as "two thousand and five", instead of "twenty on five"? Calling 1998 "nineteen-hundred and ninety-eight" is a good way of attracting strange looks, but somehow most people fancy "two thousand and eighteen" over "twenty eighteen".

These matters may seem frivolous but one should never underestimate the role that nuances in language play in shaping our con-

sciousness. When we will begin referring to what are now current events as belonging to "the last century, our collective consciousness will undoubtedly go through a shift of perspective."

The New Year's Eve turns of millennium with one of the world predictions is rooted in the fact that our language reserves a special place to numbers which are round multiples of tens and hundreds. The Y2K scare should probably be viewed as part of the same phenomenon. Not that the problem itself is not real enough - the billions being spent on repairing the bug, and the billions more in insurance against Y2K-related lawsuits hastily being bought up bear witness to the seriousness involved. But more level-headed experts studying the matter report that the predicted calamities are far-fetched. The "technological web" that has grown around us is more robust than often imagined, precisely because it developed piecemeal by countless individual actions rather than as a conscious unity. For example, utility companies, which deal with disruptions all the time, have numerous back-up sources if computers fail. Food delivery companies generally maintain a 40-day inventory in their pipelines. And airline pilots are still taught how to land manually in an emergency, just in case the machines break down. There may be a few days of dislocations, but not of the order of a Cecil B. DeMille epic.

Which doesn't mean it might not be a good idea to plan a quiet Friday evening at home on New Year's Eve a year and a half from now, just in case...

Debating 'Pvt. Ryan'

CHARLES KRAUTHAMMER

Spielberg offers not one line about the larger cause. In fact, he has stressed to interviewers his desire to make a non-, indeed, anti-John Wayne-style statement.

But John Wayne is not the last word in patriotism. Before him there was Nathan Hale. There was Robert Gould Shaw. There have been countless Americans who pledged their lives and sacred honor for a cause higher than themselves.

It is not that the critics are calling for some long, lachrymose oration on the nature of Nazism or the price of freedom. It is that in these nearly three hours of hell, one longs for a single reflection, a single phrase from these gutsy GIs about the wider panorama and purpose of their fight.

IT TOO was troubled by this obvious omission, but for reasons less of ideology than of psychological veracity. After all, Tom Hanks' squad engages in five very different, extraordinarily violent and ultimately successful types of combat - securing Omaha Beach, street fighting in a ruined French village, taking out a machine gun nest, fighting in an open field and, finally, holding a bridge against tremendous odds. Is it plausible that not one of these eight men should just once express

simple satisfaction, let alone pride, in their achievement?

The answer, it turns out, is yes. It is entirely plausible that when your dead buddies are lying all around you, you no longer care. You stop keeping score. You are too exhausted, terrified and numbed to acknowledge let alone exult in victory.

For that I have the testimony of combat veterans, including that of a friend's father, a World War II Ranger who was involved in several dangerous operations won against long odds. He recalls that in combat, no matter what the outcome, it always seems as if you're losing. The most you can feel afterward is relief.

"Saving Private Ryan" is the soldier's-eye view of war. Does the filmmaker have a responsibility to rise above that view and remind you of the glory of the cause? Spielberg could have worked it in. It need not have been crude, John Wayne-ish. It need not have done violence to the psychological verisimilitude of the film.

But he chose not to. And the choice is perfectly defensible. World War II speaks for itself. It needs no spin. Only a moral idiot can doubt its justice. And it was clearly not this director's intent to

devalue the cause. Tom Hanks and his bunch are precisely the kind of guys who, two reels after the end of "Ryan," would have liberated

Schindler's factory.

This is not a movie about glory. It is, as *The Washington Post's* Stephen Hunter has elegantly elaborated, a movie about duty. And in duty there can be glory. True, duty can be simply folly - when you act on orders of a corrupt or insane authority, as in "Catch-22" and the Vietnam War movies. But "Ryan," unlike those anti-war films, portrays the GIs' command authority with respect. Their decision to risk eight soldiers to save the life of one is problematic but still deeply morally serious.

There is a difference between saying that one died absurdly in war - grotesquely, arbitrarily, as on Omaha Beach - and saying that one died for an absurdity. It is the difference between realism and cynicism, between "Saving Private Ryan" and anti-war propaganda.

Which is why in the end the conservative critics are wrong. There is not an ounce of cynicism in this movie. No Oliver Stone, no Joseph Heller, not even John LeCarre. It is all guts, yes. But glory too, subtle and deeply moving.

(Washington Post Writers Group)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ROAD SAFETY

Sir, - Is Zaida Harris ("Road Safety," July 19) a lone voice whistling in the wind?

We keep hearing about "security" - our Prime Minister constantly harps on the need for it and rightly so - but what about the security to arrive safely at one's destination after driving on our hazardous roads, or to cross the road without being run down?

There are many ways to bring down the terrifying toll of deaths and injuries by traffic "accidents." Many countries are now utilizing electronic devices which record traffic violations and lead to swift prosecution. These are far more effective than putting extra policemen on patrol for limited periods.

Similar trial schemes have been initiated by Metuma (Road Safety Organization) in certain areas and found to show a considerable reduction in road injuries, but have not been implemented on a nationwide scale.

Does anyone up there in the higher echelons of power care about the very real danger threatening the lives of citizens every single day on the roads or do they simply not want to know?

MITZI KLEIN

Jerusalem

CABLE ROBBERY

Sir, - I refer to Ray Lewis's letter "Cable Robbery" (July 24). I too am greatly missing Channel 19 on Cable TV. When I phoned Arutzei Zahav asking them when we were going to receive the promised new programs on Channel 19, I was told we weren't and that "it was nothing to do with finance." I was also told that I now have Star World on Channel 18. I always received this channel but under the name of Star Plus.

As your writer states, we are still paying the same amount of money

each month even though we have lost not only Channel 19 but also Channel 16.

While writing I would also like to state how disgusted I was at having received a further bill to pay an additional sum of money for the TV license after having paid the original amount in full for year ending 1998.

If this is not illegal, it certainly is immoral.

MARION KEMPLER

Jerusalem

A FLABBY, SHABBY GENERALIZATION

Sir, - Labor MK Avraham Shohat is quoted as saying the government "can't continue giving unlimited funds to haredim and settlers who give nothing back to the economy." (August 4).

Mr. Shohat's flabby, shabby generalization about two segments of Israeli society reflects an appalling lack of intellectual honesty and reveals his prejudice against those who have ideals.

Many "settlers" work hard and constructively in industry, agriculture, education and various vocations. They pay taxes, serve in the IDF and do a great deal more than "nothing" to advance our people in its land.

Can Mr. Shohat say the same about himself and his colleagues, whose main occupations appear to be denigrating with whom they disagree.

MOSHE BERLIN

Jerusalem

ABOVE SUSPICION

Sir,

In *Julius Caesar* Shakespeare said: "Caesar's wife must be above suspicion."

It looks as if the same goes for Caesar! Poor President Clinton!

DORIS HASSON

Haifa

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On August 17, 1933, *The Palestine Post* reported that the High Commissioner, Sir Arthur Wauchope, laid the foundation stone of the new, permanent buildings of the Levant Fair, expected to be held in April 1934. *The Post* described the growth of the Levant Fair from a small, local affair to a commercial rallying point of international importance.

50 years ago: On August 17, 1948, *The Palestine Post* reported that the Israel pound became legal tender in the State of Israel, authorizing the Anglo-Palestine Bank to issue the new banknotes. The exchange rate was that equivalent to that of the pound sterling, but for certain recognized purposes an exchange rate of three US dollars to a pound was granted as a bonus.

25 years ago: On August 17, 1973, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that Middle East Airlines flight 501, bound for Beirut, left Lod Airport after a five-hour delay caused by a heavily-drinking Libyan who hijacked the jet to Israel "to prove that not all Arabs and Jews are enemies."

Alexander Zvielli

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Hardscrabble

Where the Hunger Season Is Part of Life



In pockets of Africa, people subsist on meager crops. A woman in Somalia shucked corn grown with the help of Unicef and Oxfam.

By BARBARA CROSSETTE

IN parts and pockets of Africa, there is an extra season every year. It is called the hunger season. That is when, said Martha Carey of Doctors Without Borders, "people forage for food — they strip wild plants, they dig for fish in mud flats." In the Sudan, it is the hunger season and they are slaughtering their cows. "Cows are their last insurance policy," she said. "They cannot be replaced. After that, they have nothing."

The world's attention has been focused on Africa lately because of the bombings of American embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, and because of the extreme suffering of the Sudanese, who are again on the run from yet another cycle of war between a Muslim north and a traditionalist and Christian south. But a million other stories of deprivation and intractable hunger just a notch less severe never get told because they are so common.

The Rev. David Guzman, a Roman Catholic priest from Colombia who is a missionary in Africa, was riding the subway in New York recently when he saw passengers looking at newspaper pictures from the Sudan and expressing shock. "Oh, my God," he said. "If only they could have seen the place where I am."

The place where he lives and works is a barren stretch of northern Kenya where, in the hunger season, people slit the throats of cattle to draw enough blood to drink to sustain life. Then they carefully heal the wound to save the cow, the most important of capital goods, for the next crisis.

"The Government sometimes gives them maize," Father Guzman said, but never enough. "There is no electricity, no water supply, no rivers, no hills, no food. This is a semi-arid place and you cannot cultivate crops. The people are always sick. The health center is 300 kilometers away and there are no cars, no buses."

A Lonely Errand

Father Guzman was on a lonely errand in New York, trying to get small donations for water pumps and maybe a used ambulance. He toured Catholic parishes after being shooed away by the church hierarchy because the list of supplicants for official help is already too long. In small churches, he tells his story of official indifference, tribal warfare, natural disasters, relentless diseases and other blows. "Just when you think you are getting somewhere, more bad things come," is how he describes it.

The statistics tell the story. Of the 45 countries at the bottom of the Human Development Index, a people-centered measure of progress published annually by the United Nations Development Program, 35 are African. Only Africa's Mediterranean fringe and the southern tip of the continent escape the category. Elsewhere, life expectancy hovers between 40 and 50 years, sometimes lower. Half or fewer of the people in this vast area of disadvantage have access to health care, clean water or toilets. Daily caloric intake is a third or more below that of Mexico or China.

Unicef, the United Nations children's fund, found in 1997 that while the world average of deaths among children below age 5 was 89 in 1,000 births, the African average was 174 per 1,000. The children who survive have to fend off pneumonia, tuberculosis, malaria and now AIDS. Immunization rates for childhood diseases are often low in sub-Saharan Africa, Unicef reported. Only South Asia, led by India, has more childhood malnutrition.

It does not have to be that way, and was not always so, said Thelma Awori, director for Africa of the United Nations Development Program. Mrs. Awori, taking a long look back

To Tell the Truth
Honestly, now,
when is the last
time you lied? Or
committed a sin
of omission?



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Mission Impossible
America's legal
niceties get in the
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The Chilean Solution?
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accounts the
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Social Security
problems? In
Chile, such
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harshest test.

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The Age of Reason

A Chilling Crime and a Question: What's in a Child's Mind?

By SUSAN SACHS

AT the age of 7, a child is considered by the Roman Catholic Church to have reached the "age of reason" and is entitled to receive communion. Some evangelical churches hold that a child of 7 can make an independent spiritual choice. In Judaism and Islam, a boy of 7 is expected to begin his religious studies and participate, to some degree, in adult rituals like fasting and praying. Freud believed the super ego, or the conscience, develops by age 4 or 5.

But is a child of such tender years a responsible being, capable of telling right from wrong and accountable, not just legally but morally, for his actions?

Murder charges brought last week in Chicago against two boys, ages 7 and 8, raised the issue as more than an abstraction. The boys, according to the police, confessed to killing an 11-year-old girl, Ryan Harris, then stealing her bicycle.

Youngsters kill — that's been drilled into the national consciousness by a succession of school shootings. In those cases, the juvenile killers were adolescents. The two boys who were convicted last week of gunning down classmates and a teacher in their Jonesboro, Ark., classroom last March were then just 11 and 13. The boy charged in the school shootings in Springfield, Ore., last May is 15. Few would argue with the assumption that, at that stage in their lives, they ought to be capable of understanding their actions and the consequences.

With a child of only 7, however, the assumptions are

neither clear nor particularly comfortable.

"What do you do with children who may have arrived at the age of reason but whose psychological life is such that neither rationality nor moral reason operate in their behavior?" asked Robert Coles, a child psychiatrist at Harvard University who has written several books on the moral development of children.

No one, he said, is born bad. Yet, despite a lifetime of studying and listening to children, he was utterly confounded by the implications of the Chicago case. "In the absence of that kind of psychological life — I mean the lack of controls to deal with the impulses of their lives, the lack of an operative consciousness — I can only throw up my hands," Dr. Coles said.

How society will deal with the boys is now a question for the juvenile justice system, but there are no precedents; they are the youngest children ever charged with murder in this country. On Thursday, they were released to their mothers and ordered to wear electronic monitoring devices and stay in their homes.

Religion, a source of society's notions of justice, has been wrestling with moral codes for millennia. But cases of children committing capital crimes are rare, so they represent something of a black hole for theologians, a puzzle that neither faith nor doctrine anticipates.

Both Judaism and Islam, for example, set the age of majority, when children are liable for their actions, at 13 for boys and 12 for girls. "It's the age of full responsibility and therefore full liability," said David Kraemer, a professor at the Jewish Theological Seminary. Younger



A toy gun catches the sun as children frolic with a hose in the Hell's Kitchen section of New York City.

Continued on Page 10

The Nation

Bright, Shining or Dark: American Way of Lying

By JANNY SCOTT

LYING is bad. So Americans say. They tell pollsters they are no good at it, it is difficult, they rarely lie. In the tradition of Lake Wobegon ("where the women are strong, the men are good looking and all of the children are above average"), they think they are more honest than everyone else.

Yet lying is everywhere: lies to children, lies to voters, lies to the Internal Revenue Service, lies under oath. People lie to avoid embarrassment, to spare feelings, to get their way. And, when confronted with a lie, they justify it: The lie was harmless, the truth would have hurt, the ends justified the means.

A Matter of Degree

They are even willing to overlook lying in others. Mike Barnicle, the columnist at The Boston Globe, still has his job, even after misleading his readers or his editors or his viewers or all three. President Clinton is widely believed to have lied about his sex life, yet most Americans seem not to care.

"Everyone lies about sex," Jerry Seinfeld said during his Broadway show when someone from the audience asked for a joke about Mr. Clinton. "People lie during sex. If it weren't for lies, there'd be no sex."

Mr. Clinton is scheduled to tell the truth tomorrow in the grand jury investigation of his relationship with Monica S. Lewinsky. But responding honestly to a narrowly defined question may represent a sin of omission

those to help oneself. A friend might lie to a friend, or a parent to a child, when the truth could hurt and the deception would not.

"The principle here, if there is a principle, is you must never lie unless you must," said Alexander Nehamas, a professor of philosophy at Princeton.

"Ironically, one of the most necessary lies we tell our children is you must never lie. Then we turn around and, when it suits us, pretend to believe the principle ourselves."

There is, of course, little support for lying in religious literature. St. Augustine opposed it absolutely. Christian and Jewish traditions strongly discourage it. To the Catholic Church, it is a sin against God's gift of speech.

Honesty, on the other hand, is the foundation upon which relationships and many societies are built. Without it, it is said, there can be no trust. Widespread lying destroys the fabric of democratic societies, in which the necessary assumption is that people mostly tell the truth.

"If you're going to tell a lie, there had better be a serious moral reason for it," said Joseph C. Hough, professor of Christian ethics and dean of Vanderbilt Divinity School. "Not every single thing that's unpleasant is a moral reason. I think you can find gentle ways to tell the truth."

Yet even the religious literature allows exceptions. In Catholic moral tradition, there is the so-called principle of overriding right, which recognizes that there are times when a more important principle than truth-telling is at stake, such as the principle of protecting human life.

Rabbi Joel Roth, a professor of Talmud and rabbinic literature at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City, said that while there is little tolerance in rabbinic literature for lying, and while lying is always forbidden in a judicial proceeding, some white lying may be allowed.

He cited a passage in chapter 18 of the book of Genesis in which God omits to mention to Abraham an unflattering comment by his wife. From that passage and at least one other, Rabbi Roth said, rabbis deduce that some white lies may be acceptable in preserving family harmony.

There is little research on how and when Americans lie. But Bella M. DePaulo, a professor of psychology at the University of Virginia, recently studied everyday lying by 77 college students and 70 individuals in a community. All kept weeklong diaries detailing their interactions and the lies they told.

Everyday Fibs

Professor DePaulo found that virtually everyone lied. The students averaged two lies a day, the others one. The vast majority of lies were told to spare the liar embarrassment or to make him or her look better. The benefit was psychic, not material. In her studies of serious lying, as opposed to everyday lying, Dr. DePaulo has found that a quarter of all serious lies were told to cover an affair. She said scholarly literature on lying suggests that Americans also find lying more acceptable when the behavior it is concealing was discreet.

"There is a very important distinction between the acceptability of the lie and the acceptability of the behavior that the lie is covering up," she said. "If someone says, 'It's O.K. with me that he lied about it,'

When it comes to the truth, Americans consider some lies perfectly acceptable.

that does not constitute honesty as most people know it.

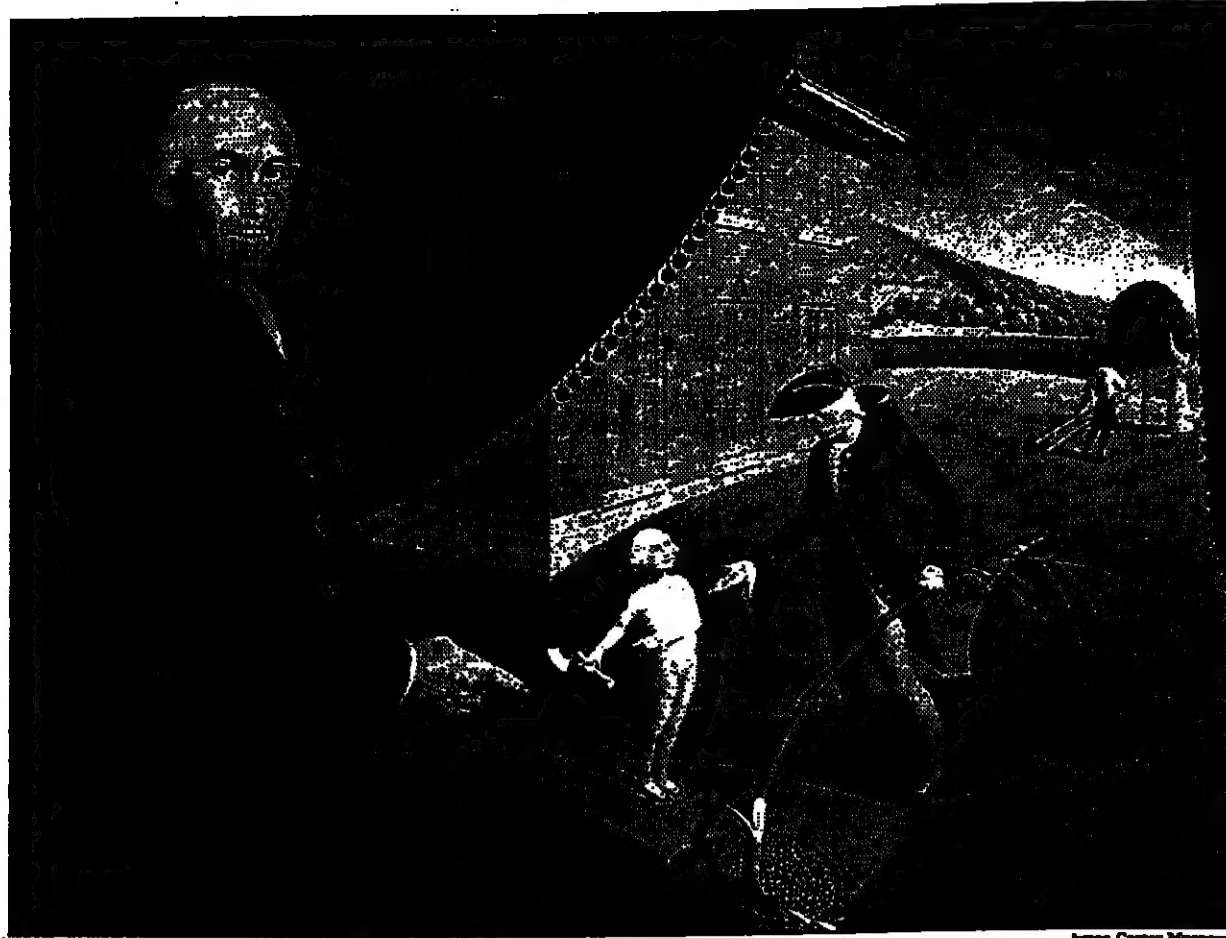
Sex may be the all-time favorite exception to the rule that honesty is the best policy, research on lying and anecdotal evidence suggest. But there are other common situations where many Americans think it may be all right not to tell the truth.

It is okay to lie to hide something that will be used unfairly against you or others, or to to conceal information that an inquisitor has no right to have (the classic Nazi-at-the-door-while-the-Jews-are-in-the-attic exception, stretched in contemporary life to justify paying the baby sitter off the books because the employer cannot afford child care otherwise).

Elected officials can lie in a national emergency to protect hostages, mislead the enemy, win the war. (Though Americans tend not to make a case for politicians lying, they take it for granted that their elected officials do as a rule.)

Little white lies are fine, many people insist, when the intent is benign ("What a beautiful baby, necktie, salad bowl!").

Lies to help other people are more acceptable than



George Washington confesses to arboricide in Grant Wood's 1939 painting, "Parson Weems' Fable."

they are not saying, 'It's O.K. with me that he had an affair.'"

Some scholars, including Stephen L. Carter, the Yale law professor and author of "Integrity" (Basic Books, 1996), suspect that lying has increased. And when adults accept lying as natural, Mr. Carter says, children learn the lesson that the adult world's rules are unreliable and open to manipulation.

On the other hand, Alan Wolfe, the Boston University

sociologist, who is researching a book on moral freedom, contends that Americans are simply learning to write their own moral rules, now that institutions like the church no longer manage to do it for them.

"Americans are pretty savvy about this," said Amy Gutmann, director of the Center for Human Values at Princeton University. "They think that some kinds of lies are far less bad than others. But they think that someone who can lie very well does not have good character."

For Starr Probe, the Devil's in the Definition

AS the investigation into President Clinton's relationship with Monica S. Lewinsky caroms toward a pivotal intersection tomorrow with the President's testimony to a grand jury, a semantic wrinkle has emerged. Just what are "sexual relations?" Whether the President and Ms. Lewinsky had them depends on the answer. Here, with a clip-and-save road map for the murky verbal terrain ahead.

The Paula Jones lawsuit. For the purposes of her dismissed sexual harassment claim against the President, sexual relations were defined as "contact with the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh or buttocks of any person with an intent to arouse or gratify the sexual desire of any person." By a literal reading, that definition would not embrace the passive partner in oral sex, who could say truthfully that he had not had sexual relations.

The legal view. There is no generic legal definition of sexual relations, the description of which depends on the context of a given case — civil or criminal, sexual harassment or rape — and the specific statutes where the case resides, according to Elizabeth Schneider, a professor at Brooklyn Law School and expert on gender and law.

The dictionary. The third edition of Webster's New World Dictionary does not include an entry for "sexual relations," but the definition of the noun "sex" includes "anything connected with sexual gratification or reproduction or the urge for these."

The Southern Baptist Convention. Bill Merrell, a spokesman for the organization's executive committee, said participation in any type of activity that involves the touching of one partner's genitals for pleasure would qualify as sexual relations — and would be forbidden between the unmarried by Baptists. As for the suggestion that the passive partner's experience could be considered something other than sexual, Mr. Merrell said, "It is astounding to me that anyone of a rational mind and with any experience as an adult could say that."

The Institute for Advanced Study of Human Sexuality in San Francisco. Dr. Ted McIlvanna, the institute's president, said sexual relations encompass any part of the process through which an individual, having experienced the stirrings of desire, negotiates a satisfaction of that urge. The negotiation, he added, can be solitary. "You can have sexual relations with yourself," Dr. McIlvanna said. **FRANK BRUNT**

Blacks Crunch the Numbers

Figuring Out Hispanic Influence

By STEVEN A. HOLMES

IN seven years, according to the Census Bureau, blacks will no longer be the nation's largest minority group, for the first time since the Federal Government began keeping an official count of the population.

As the country hurtles toward this demographic Rubicon, the ascendancy of Hispanic people as the leading minority, in terms of their share of the population, is generating a range of reaction among experts on the country's racial dynamic. Some are fearful, sensing a lessening of black influence and an increase in tension as many black and Hispanic Americans compete to move up the economic ladder. Some are optimistic that strong alliances can be formed on issues like education, affirmative action and reform of Social Security.

Others argue that blacks will continue to set the pace with regard to the racial climate. Still others suggest that this dynamic depends not only on the increased Hispanic population and whether the large proportion of it who are aliens — legal and illegal — become citizens and vote, but also on the rate of intermarriage with whites.

Less Strident

"This is a major demographic shift that's going to hit and it will have some significant political ramifications," said Eddie Williams, president of the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, a research organization that studies racial issues.

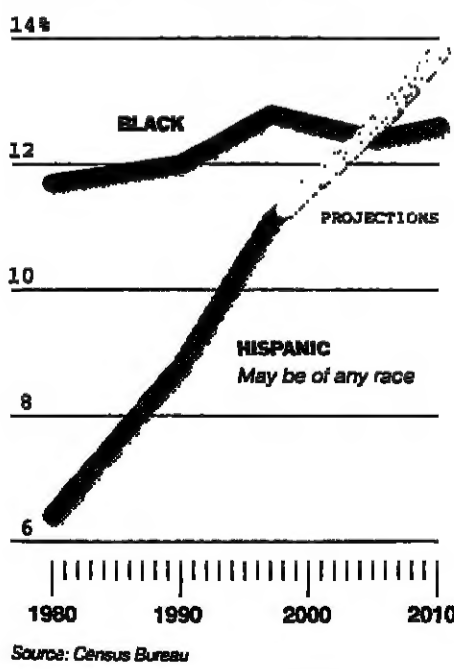
Among some liberals and some conservatives, there is surprising agreement that the burgeoning Hispanic population and the fast-growing Asian population — both of which are much more diverse and perhaps less strident on racial matters than are blacks — will alter racial dialogue that, as Jim Sleeper, author of "Liberal Racism" (Viking, 1997) said, has been dominated by "whites or blacks who have been locked in a kind of psychic and physical embrace for the last 300 years."

One liberal black civil rights leader, who asked not to be identified, said that as a result of the increase in the Hispanic and Asian populations "the emergence of class interests has the potential to be as significant to the next century as race was in this one."

For all the talk of solidarity of people of color — in part, because both groups are disproportionately poor — their interests

Changing of the Guard

Percentage of the United States population that is black or Hispanic.



often diverge. According to exit polls conducted by The Los Angeles Times, 47 percent of black voters in California supported a 1994 ballot initiative to restrict benefits to illegal aliens and 48 percent backed another voter initiative this year to curtail bilingual education severely. The two groups have also squabbed over control and jobs at the Martin Luther King Jr. Hospital in Los Angeles, access to public housing in Chicago and political power in South Florida.

Often Allies

If the Democrats hold on to the White House, a flash point may loom in the coming years over the next vacancy on the Supreme Court. In the wake of the retirement or death of a justice, Hispanic leaders will likely press for the appointment of the country's first Hispanic justice. That demand may put them at odds with blacks who feel poorly represented by Justice Clarence Thomas and want a more liberal black justice on the Court.

But the newspaper's poll also showed that

Hispanic people will soon outnumber blacks as the largest minority. But sheer numbers aren't power.

74 percent of California's blacks and 76 percent of its Hispanic citizens voted against a ballot measure that ended affirmative action in state hiring, contracting and public university admissions. And both groups are jointly fighting Republicans, who want to prevent the Census Bureau from using modern statistical methods for a more accurate count in the 2000 Census, which would probably increase minority numbers.

"The hope is that we can now begin to form alliances and it need not be a zero sum game," said Raul Yzaguirre, president of the National Council of La Raza, a Hispanic civil rights organization.

The changing racial dynamic may also depend on another phenomenon. In the 1990 Census, 31.4 percent of Hispanic women who were married reported that their husband was non-Hispanic, with the overwhelming majority of these spouses being non-Hispanic whites.

In contrast, only 6.3 percent of black women who were married had husbands of another racial group. The census data underrepresents the black intermarriage rate since it is based on the woman's choice of partner and demographers note that black men marry white women in greater numbers than black women marry white men.

Still, it is clear that Hispanic people are far more likely to marry outside their ethnic group than blacks are. No one knows what this high rate of intermarriage between Hispanic and non-Hispanic whites portends. The children of such unions could just as easily identify with the larger Anglo society as with disadvantaged "people of color," making the notion of solidarity with blacks either a reality or a pipe dream depending on which way they go.

"They could end up being honorary whites," said Ronald Walters, a political scientist at the University of Maryland. "We could end up with a situation like they had in South Africa or Brazil."

In the Mind of a Child

Continued from Page 9

children are considered to have the impulse to do good and evil, he added, "but not the reason to control the impulse."

One rabbinic teaching goes further. While rabbinical courts consider a 13-year-old liable for his actions, in the court of heaven the age of majority is 20. "It was a recognition that the teen-age years were very tumultuous and that, although they are full-grown and can do damage, God recognizes that they can't really be held responsible," Dr. Kraemer said.

Islam, too, holds that a prepubescent child is not "fully in control of his senses and doesn't have the power of reasoning to really make an informed judgment," said Jamal Badawi, a Muslim scholar and chairman of the Islamic Information Foundation in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Neither religion has a concept of original sin. "The human being is neither satanic nor angelic by nature," said Dr. Badawi, referring to the Koran. "He simply has the potential to ascend to a level even higher than the angels or descend to a level lower than animals."

Christian theology on the nature of the child is more complex, encompassing a belief that everyone is tainted by original sin as well as accommodating the idea that everyone is made in the image of God.

Since the days of Pope Plus X nearly a century ago, the Catholic Church has attributed to children of 7 the capacity to understand the consequences of their actions. That is a prerequisite for their First Communion, when they are first given a wafer in the sacrament of the Eucharist. But strict doctrine has given way to pragmatism. "It all depends on the context," said the Rev. Richard McCormick, a theologian at the University of Notre Dame. "One of the criteria used in regard to the Eucharist is the ability to understand, in some very, very primordial sense, the difference between just plain bread and this bread that is really Jesus. As we all grow older, we understand and penetrate that a bit more."

But children who may be old enough to take communion, he added, are not necessarily thought of as capable of understanding the nature of sin as a break with God. "It's the conviction of virtually all people that children of that age are incapable of serious sin," Father McCormick said.

Ideas about the emergence of moral consciousness developed differently in Protestant churches. The Calvinist view was that "the image of God in each of us is radically destroyed or altered by what is called original sin, that there is innate depravity in human beings," said John McDargh, an

associate professor of theology at Boston College. Other Christian thinkers, he said, argued that the image of God should be seen as the human capacity for relationships and that original sin may obscure but not destroy that image.

In the United States, those divergent views produced not only the image of "The Bad Seed," as popularized in William March's 1954 novel about a child who is simply born bad, but also the early Puritan notion that adults should deploy a harsh hand to break the will of the innately corrupted child.

Later movements, in a backlash, leaned more toward the Mark Twain view that the natural child, like the fictional Huckleberry Finn, is untainted except by society, and prescribed a lighter parental touch to nurture what was believed to be the child's innate capacity for empathy and charity. Modern theorists of child development see children much as parents like to think of their offspring — works in progress, with natural inclinations to empathize with others, to feel bad if someone is hurt, to tell right from wrong. The tricky part is figuring out how and when those values can be warped or enhanced by interactions with family, peers and society.

By an early age, any child will be tested. "When you send a child off to school at 6, the child becomes a social being, responsible to society," said Dr. Coles, the child psychiatrist. And that's where the danger lies. "Children who grow up with no sense of right and wrong are both vulnerable and dangerous — vulnerable to their impulses, dangerous to others," he said.

Reflecting Society

Reason, then, is not really the issue with a child of 7 or 8. "It's not like a 4-year-old who happens to pull a trigger on a gun and doesn't understand that it kills, or doesn't understand what killing is about altogether, or what death is about," said Moshe Halberstam, a professor of Jewish thought at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. "Here, at 7 or 8 or 9, they understand. We don't attribute to them responsibility, but we do attribute to them understanding."

And by their very nature, he added, children bounce the question back to their elders. "When we say that children are not fully legally responsible, one thing we mean by that is that they mirror the social life around them," Dr. Halberstam said. "This is what's so shattering about crimes done by children. They are naive or, in some ways, transparent reflections of something in society — a certain violence, a certain cruelty. Without filtering, they represent what the society is about."

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Ideas & Trends

Monopoly: Nuclear Power Version

By MATTHEW L. WALD

STATES around the country are breaking up utility monopolies, hoping to create a competitive marketplace for electricity. But that does not mean the monopolies are disappearing; some may just be turning sideways, moving away from vertical operations that controlled coal mines, power stations and meters and toward a horizontal business that manages huge groups of generating stations. Leading the turn, some experts predict, will be nuclear power.

Deregulation has attracted suitors for the generating stations and created an opportunity to operate them almost like McDonald's franchises. Big regional utilities like Pacific Gas & Electric, Duke Power Company and Entergy have set up affiliates that build or buy generating stations far from their home territory.

Two nuclear power plants in Maine and Pennsylvania have recently been cast out into the cold by owners facing deregulation and they have tried to market themselves like middle-aged managers laid off in corporate downsizing.

Small Consortiums

"They will end up owned by people who can run them efficiently and do well, not by all these mom-and-pop utilities," said one utility shopper, Richard H. Bornemann, a former vice president of United Illuminating, an electric company in southern Connecticut that is part owner of several nuclear plants.

Few people think of a company running nuclear reactors as a "mom and pop" operation. But one of Mr. Bornemann's partners, Shelby T. Brewer, a top executive of Combustion Engineering when that company was an independent reactor manufacturer, predicted that the industry would become so consolidated in a few years that only two or three companies — not scores of them — would be running the remaining reactors in the country.

Making the right decision about old reactors is important to consumers' bills. In the 1970's and



The Maine Yankee reactor in Wiscasset will be dismantled.

1980's the utility industry wasted tens of billions of dollars on more than 100 reactors that were later abandoned before completion because they were uneconomical. It spent tens of billions completing others that should not have built. Now the industry must decide which plants can continue to operate efficiently and at low risk.

The idea of assembling reactors into chains is rather stunning. In the late 1950's tiny utilities banded together to tackle the giant new nuclear technology and the "Yankee" system began. The 26-year-old Maine Yankee reactor in Wiscasset has eight owners; ownership of Vermont Yankee, Connecticut Yankee and Yankee Rowe in Massachusetts was also shared. Now giant conglomerates want to manage strings of tiny reactors.

Mr. Bornemann and Dr. Brewer, together with Timothy E. Smith, a former industry lobbyist, made a bid late last month for Maine Yankee, which has been on the market two years. The three said they would run it as a "merchant" plant, selling its power to whoever wanted it that hour, that week or that month, like a taxi in a field previously served only by private cars. Many companies have built merchant plants that run on natural gas or coal. No one is likely to build a nuclear plant, but existing reactors could be sold by utilities and become merchant plants.

Their bid came too late. The consortium that owns the plant recently hired Stone & Webster, which built it, to tear it down.

Dr. Brewer's prediction might have sounded outlandish years ago. But last month the first-ever sale of an operating reactor was completed;

the undamaged twin of the Three Mile Island reactor that melted down near Harrisburg, Pa., in March 1979, was bought by Amergen, a consortium of Philadelphia Electric and British Energy.

But it will have competition. "We've said for a number of years we'd like to be an operator," said Cyril Guerrero, a spokesman for Entergy, which is based in New Orleans and supplied Maine Yankee's most recent managers. It already owns five reactors, and Entergy recently said it wanted to buy reactors, or at least shares in them. Deregulation enables the companies to collect some of their losses from their customers, and may spur them to sell cheap, partly because the cost of decommissioning reactors is huge.

Consolidation

Analysts have long criticized the American nuclear program for having too many companies, each running too few plants to get any economies of scale or skill. Now the programs seem to face the kind of consolidation that has transformed everything from grocery stores to cable television companies. However it occurs, consolidation could be good for consumers, say people inside the industry.

But Roger Fontes, the assistant general manager at the Northern California Power Agency, which represents 15 small utilities that buy their power wholesale, disagreed. When one company owns most of the generation in an area, he said, "prices will reflect the owners' desires more than the market demand."

Social Security, Chilean Style

Pensioners Quiver As Markets Fall

By CLIFFORD KRAUSS

OTTO VON BISMARCK, Germany's "Iron Chancellor," started a worldwide revolution when he created the first state-run social security system in 1883. No one seriously challenged that model until another man of iron will, Gen. Augusto Pinochet of Chile, installed the first privatized pension system here 88 years later, in 1981.

Today a lot of conservatives are proclaiming that a century of increasing government responsibility for social welfare is over in the West, and aging populations and dropping birth rates will make pay-as-you-go social security impossible to sustain even in the United States.

So they are looking at the Chilean solution: privately managed, individually owned retirement accounts based on the compounded magic of stocks and bonds, as a replacement.

But before Pinochet replaces Bismarck in any pantheon of jackbooted social reformers, his new model must first survive a test: the contagion spreading from Asia's deepening economic crisis, which is shaking Chile harder than almost any other country in Latin America.

In 12 months, Chile's stock market has lost more than 25 percent in dollar terms, largely in response to faltering exports to Asia and falling copper prices tied to Japan's economic slowdown. Some analysts fear that a deep recession will replace years of steady growth.

Although supporters of the Chilean pension system point out that the diversified portfolios in Chile's retirement accounts have eased the losses, pensioners and workers are lining up in the offices of pension management companies with questions fraught with doubt. Simply put, privatization has proven no panacea for the insecurities people feel when thinking about retirement.

"You are forcing me to acquire risk that I may not want," said Luis Felipe Jiménez, an economist for the United Nations, paraphrasing the

automatically put 10 percent or more of their wages into an individual retirement account, which is not taxed until withdrawal (Older workers had the option of remaining in the traditional social security system). The amount of pension due upon retirement depends on the amount a worker accumulates, along with the investment returns earned by which ever one of 14 private pension fund companies the worker selects to manage the account. The portfolios are regulated and the returns monitored by the Government.

Once retired, a worker can put the accumulated capital into an annuity provided by a life insurance company. Or the funds may remain in the retirement account, from which regular withdrawals can be made. A basic guarantee remains: those who have not accumulated a minimum pension receive a Government allowance that can be considerably below the poverty line.

Critics point out that workers must pay high management fees to funds that, because of regulation, offer little choice in investments. Nevertheless, in their early years, the funds were a smashing success.

More than 90 percent of the workers who had a choice opted for the new system. The funds accumulated \$30 billion by 1997, delivering a stunning 12 percent average annual return in the first 15 years. The savings rate blossomed from single digits to 25 percent of gross domestic product, helping to fuel a rapid expansion in the securities markets.

The winning streak has faltered in recent years, however. The average returns for the pension funds declined from an 18 percent gain in 1994 to a 2.5 percent loss in 1995, followed by gains of 3.5 percent in 1996 and 4.7 percent in 1997.

An Exit Strategy

Over the last 12 months, the average fund is down about 5 percent — not bad, considering the plunge in the Chilean stock market. But the reason for the modest losses is instructive: The pension funds have been dumping Chilean stocks. They have reduced their exposure in the local stock exchange from over 30 percent four years ago to under 20 percent today, while acquiring more conservative fixed-income investments and foreign stocks. One effect is that the funds have effectively helped drive down the same stock market they once drove up. And the market swings have prompted some workers to put off retirement.

This illustrates one of the risks that critics of privatization are fond of pointing out: Linking social security and the securities markets may spread wealth in boom times, but it can multiply the intensity and effects of a recession as well.

How accurate a gauge the Chilean experience — both good and not so good — can be for the United States is not quite clear. No one, for example, seriously believes that the same system adopted under a dictatorship in a developing country of 15 million people would be so easily adopted or regulated in a country as wealthy, large, complex and politically volatile as the United States.

Meanwhile, Chileans are learning the downside of a system tied to fluctuating markets. "I may seem calm on the outside, but my stomach is churning," said Fabian Moraga, a 33-year-old computer technician. He has accumulated \$10,000 in his pension account over 10 years. But with a chronically sick child at home, Mr. Moraga said, any risk frightens him. "I don't know what will happen tomorrow with these stock markets," he says.

Mr. Piñera, the Chilean system's designer, has a response to that kind of fear: It's all part of accepting individual responsibility. "I can bet you 10 to 1," he said, "that the average annual rate of return for the funds over the next 45 years will not be negative after 17 years of 11.5 percent returns."

Mr. Piñera may well be right about the odds. But what Mr. Moraga wants is a sure thing.

For those studying Pinochet's model, now is a good time.

fears. Andrés Uthoff, another United Nations economist, added, "It will take a generation to see if this will work or not."

Still, the international response to the Chilean model has been bullish. Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, El Salvador, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay adopted some form of Chile's system over the last five years, and a similar system is working its way through Poland's parliament.

In Washington, the Federal Reserve Chairman, Alan Greenspan, as well as conservatives who include a former Reagan Administration economist, Martin Feldstein, have praised the Chilean experiment as a model for boosting national savings, stimulating economic growth and securing the futures of the elderly. Even a few liberals, notably Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan of New York, have said the United States should consider some privatization of Social Security.

"This is a megatrend," said José Piñera, who designed the Chilean pension system as General Pinochet's Secretary of Labor and Social Security. "The pay-as-you-go system is like the Titanic going directly toward the iceberg of an aging population and declining fertility rates. Fortunately there is Chilean ship of individual private accounts nearby."

But before jumping ship, policy makers can look at Chile's model as a lesson in what a privatized pension system can and cannot do.

Chile's plan requires those who entered the work force after 1981 to

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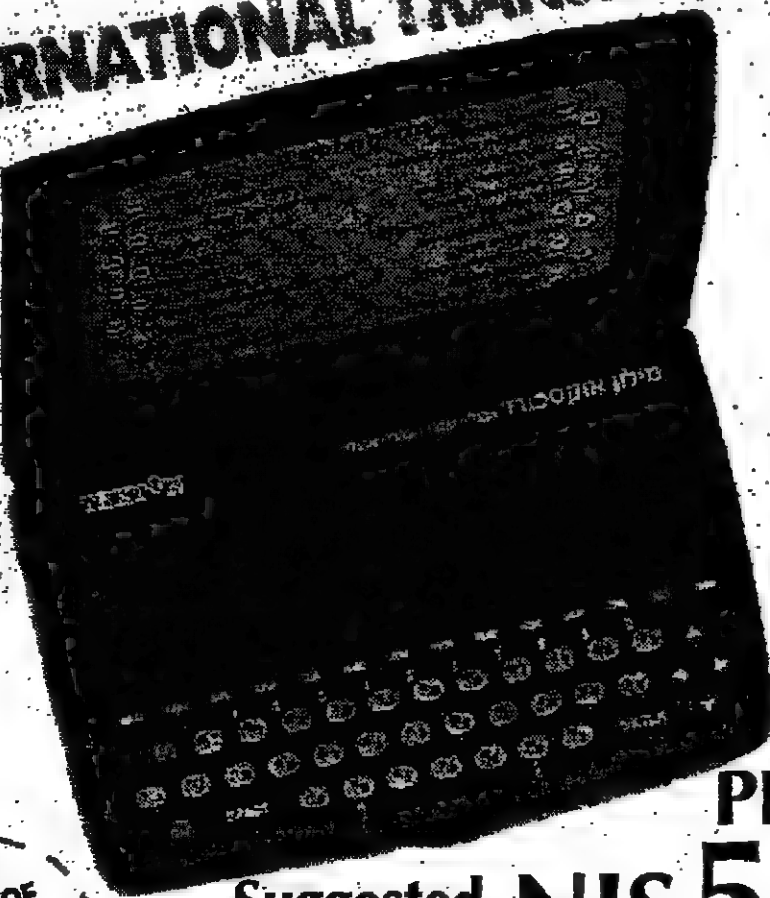
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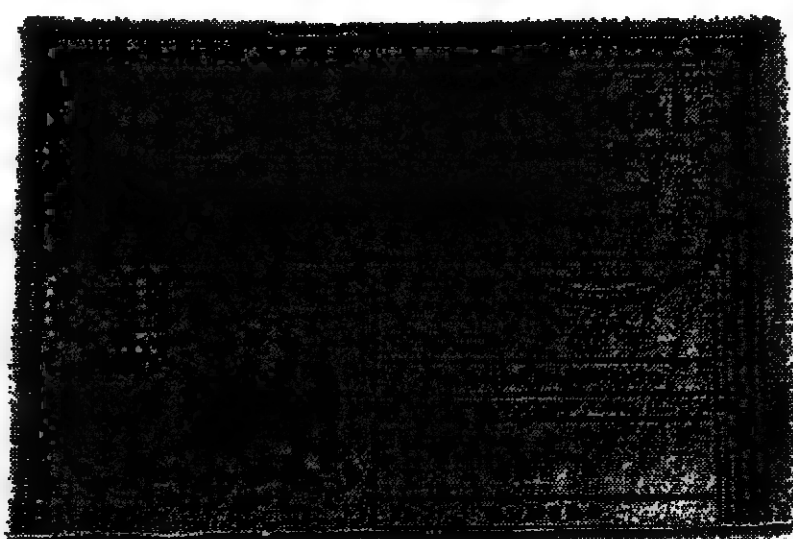
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ECONOMY

A Break in the Clouds or More Storms Ahead?

LAST FALL, when the stock market fell more than 10 percent below its high for the first time since 1990, the reason was clear. Currency devaluations in Asia had aroused fears that falling export prices would hurt the profits of companies in the United States.

Ten months later, stock prices have again fallen 10 percent, from a higher peak, and the downturn can again be traced in part to worries about the Asian malaise.

But there are significant differences to the most recent decline — a decline that has some people on Wall Street thinking that the bull market's long run has finally ended.

Last fall, analysts worried about a slowdown in corporate profits. Now they see dozens of companies actually reporting earnings shortfalls. One by one, historical yardsticks used to value stocks have toppled old records, leaving few measures by which this is not the most expensive market ever.

And though the broad market indexes have declined 10 percent, thousands of stocks are 20 percent or more below their peaks.

Not all the signs are so foreboding. The employment boom has continued with little, if any, upward pressure on wages. Banks appear to be well-capitalized against possible losses in Asia and have little exposure to troubled markets in Eastern Europe. Though corporate profits are growing more slowly than in

recent years, they are growing. Some of Wall Street's most astute investors say that means stock prices should end the year well above their current levels.

Trying to pin the cause of the recent decline on any single factor is as impossible as determining where the market is headed next. But it might be useful to review just what has all of Wall Street so upset.

EDWARD WYATT

A History Lesson

For Major Indexes, A Long Way to Doom

For years, both the returns generated by stocks and the valuations that investors assigned to them have vastly exceeded levels experienced throughout market history. Some argue that outsized valuations are simply a result of a new era of investing in which the old rules no longer apply. These folks are happy to pay 200 times earnings for America Online.

For the rest of us here on planet Earth, a little dose of reality now comes from the market watchers at the Leuthold Group in Minneapolis. They have collected data back to 1926 on two indexes: the Dow Jones Industrial Average and the Standard & Poor's Industrials (not the S. & P.

500-stock index).

Let's begin with where we are now, based on two common measures: price-earnings ratios and average dividend yield, or the amount of dividends paid by the companies in the group divided by the total price of those companies' stocks.

As of Friday, the Dow stood at 8,425. It carried a p/e ratio of 21, and dividends paid by the stocks in the Dow group yielded an average 1.78 percent. The S. & P. Industrials closed the week at 1,252.60. Its price-earnings ratio was 29; its dividend yield, 1.35 percent.

Over 72 years, the median p/e ratio on the Dow has been 15.3. How far off that median are we now? For the Dow to return to that valuation level, it would have to drop 37 percent, to 5,391. The median dividend yield on the Dow has historically been 4.3 percent, more than double what it is now. For dividend yield valuations to revert to their median, the Dow would have to fall to 3,353, or 60 percent below its Friday close.

If the S. & P. Industrials reverted to the historical norm as measured by p/e, this index would lose about half its value, falling to 624. If measured by dividend yield, the index would collapse to 445, a fall of 64 percent.

Obviously, market experts don't think the averages will plunge to levels anywhere near their historical medians. And with most Americans certain that the stock market is the best place to put their money, continued demand for equities could keep their prices in the stratosphere.

The Leuthold Group has compiled another set of numbers that goes back to 1957 and includes only those periods when inflation was low. If the Dow Jones Industrials were to trade at the median p/e ratio during periods of low inflation, it would fall to 5,972, a decline of 29 percent. The S. & P. Industrials would have to drop 37 percent, to 788.

The old rules may indeed no longer apply to our brave new market. Still, it is better to know what history has to say than to ignore it.

GRETCHEN MORGENSON

The Small Investor

Still Holding On, On a Bumpy Road

Amid all the gloom and doom about falling share prices, one particular bright spot has been the little guy: small investors have shown few signs of jumping ship.

The evidence this summer suggests that large institutional investors, like hedge funds and mutual funds, have been the aggressive sellers of domestic equities. But the small investor, though concerned and a bit jittery, seems to be doing just what the fund brochures advise: holding on through the bumps and bruises, and then buying more stocks. In April 1997, then again last October and in April this year, smaller investors rushed in to save a swooning stock market.

Data from Birinyi Associates, a market research firm in Greenwich, Conn., show that the little guys, those trading fewer than 10,000 shares, have been buyers recently, while those trading 10,000 or more, the institutions, have been sellers.

Sure, individuals seem to have abandoned small-company stocks in favor of blue chips and the index funds that mimic them. Until the last month, that pushed up key indexes, even as the broader market lagged behind or fell, reducing the breadth of the bull market. But the shift has been more a rush to safety and performance than a rush to the exits.

"The individual investor is much less emotional than the supposed professional money managers," said Alfred Goldman, chief market strategist at A.G. Edwards Inc. in St. Louis.

DAVID BARBOZA

Currencies

A Global Drama: As the Yen Turns

"Now is the time to assess risks and rewards," said Mark Mobius, the managing director of Templeton

Asset Management. As he headed off to Moscow this weekend, the list of risks was getting longer.

That list — headed by the weakening Japanese yen, the threat of a currency devaluation by China, the possibility of a Russian devaluation and a deepening of the Asian economic crisis — helped send stocks lower around the world last week and dampened the outlook.

Investors are fleeing emerging markets, where the spillover from either a Chinese or a Russian devaluation would hit hardest. Brazilian stocks dropped 6.2 percent last week. Mexican stocks fell 6.8 percent, and the peso hit a record low against the dollar.

American investors do not think the piling on of bad news has yet knocked the legs out from under the bull market. Many analysts, while predicting volatility ahead, say they think the combination of low inflation and resilient domestic growth will prevent that from happening. In Europe, the outlook is also still positive.

But the threats all but insure that the market volatility that was rampant last week — the Dow Jones Industrial Average down 112 points on Tuesday, up 90 points on Wednesday, down 93 points on Thursday and down 34 points on Friday — will continue.

The yen remains the biggest risk. It is the barometer of Japan's ability to turn around its own economy and, in turn, help all of Asia back on its feet. It is Asia's drag on corporate earnings that is disturbing investors in the United States and in Europe.

In the minds of many investors, the yen has also become the lever that could force the Chinese to devalue. So, as the yen falls, that threat looms larger.

After such a tumultuous week of bad news and short spells of relief, investors might begin to wonder if things could begin to unravel. Around the world, most stock markets are under pressure, as are many economies. Can the United States and its allies prop up Russia yet again? Can the Japanese Government get its act together? Is China playing politics, or is a devaluation ultimately in the cards?

That kind of uncertainty could unnerve the bulls.

JONATHAN FUERBRINGER

The Economy

Signs of Health And Rays of Hope

With the 1990's economic expansion poised to enter the record books as the longest ever in peacetime, it is shifting gears from the heady pace of the last two years to a more sedate one. Whatever negatives may be at work, the economy may well be a stabilizing, not destabilizing, influence for financial markets.

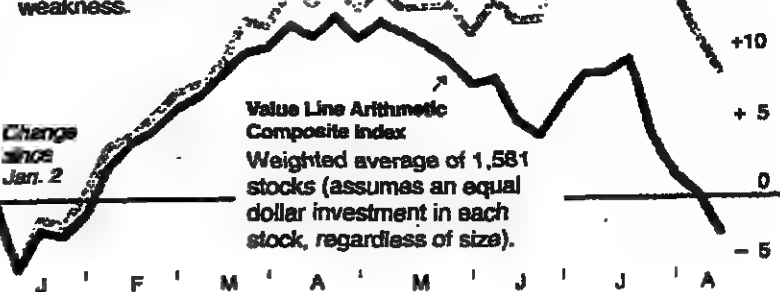
To be sure, the downshifting is a bit scary. Anytime the economy slows sharply, it becomes more vulnerable to outside shocks. But the slowdown was inevitable. Did anyone really believe that the economy, already having achieved the lowest unemployment rate in 28 years, could keep barreling along indefinitely? And a deceleration is just as likely to keep the expansion alive as it is to kill it off. If the Asian crisis had not come along to cool the economy, the Federal Reserve would probably have raised interest rates — and it could easily, as in the past, have raised them too much.

The economy is healthier than it has been in decades. Compare 1998 with 1993, when inflation was picking up and the Fed was raising interest rates. The savings and loan crisis was in full bloom. Federal deficits stretched to the horizon. Consumers were up to their eyeballs in debt.

Now, government, banks and consumers are in better financial shape. Inflation is low, interest rates are falling and the dollar is gaining strength. The recession in Asia, serious as it is, isn't likely to pull the United States down, too. The world's big economies, as the last 20 years have shown, aren't that synchronized. More important, the domestic side of the American economy, which accounts for 85 percent of economic activity, still has real momentum. Consumers and home buyers, par-

When Fortunes Part

The average stock — represented by the Value Line index — began giving ground in May, well before the big stocks that dominate the Standard & Poor's 500 began showing signs of weakness.



Winners and Losers

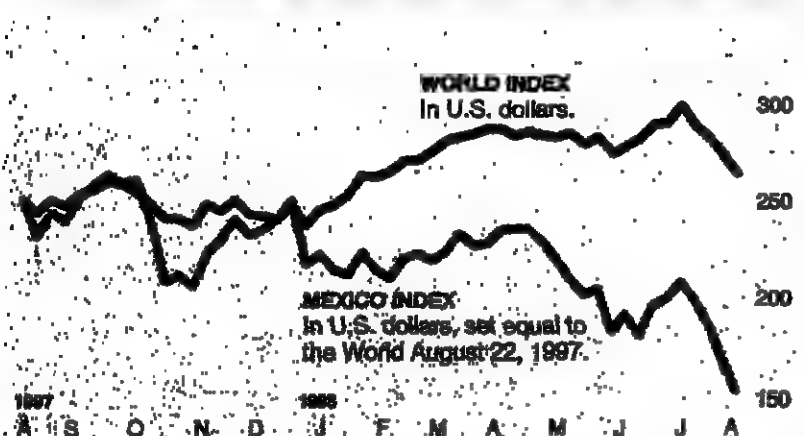
The best- and worst-performing stocks among the Standard & Poor's 500, from the July 17 market peak through Friday.

Best-performing stocks	Return
AMP	23.6%
Amoco	23.0
Briggs & Stratton	17.9
American Stores	13.7
Micron Technology	11.8
Louisiana-Pacific	11.2
Apple Computer	9.8
Advanced Micro Devices	9.8
Cendant	9.6
Seagate Technology	9.6

Worst-performing stocks	Return
Thermo Electron	-29.5%
Reebok Int'l	-30.1
Cass	-30.4
Union Pacific Resources	-31.4
Adobe Systems	-32.6
Tellabs	-33.0
Liz Claiborne	-34.8
Computer Associates Int'l	-38.1
United Healthcare	-49.6
Humana	-50.4

Source: Bloomberg Financial Markets

WORLD STOCK MARKETS



Prepared by Goldman, Sachs & Co. using data derived from the Financial Times/Standard & Poor's Actuaries World Index, a measure of stock market performance. The FT index is compiled jointly by The Financial Times Limited, Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Standard & Poor's, in conjunction with the Institute of Actuaries and Faculty of Actuaries.

PERFORMANCE	IN U.S. DOLLARS						IN LOCAL CURR.	
Country	Index	Week % Chg.	Week Rank	YTD % Chg.	YTD Rank	Dividend Yield	Index	YTD % Chg.
Australia	176.11	-2.4	4	-12.0	16	3.79	187.04	-3.5
Austria	213.55	-5.6	17	13.0	10	1.70	199.37	12.9
Belgium	572.82	-4.5	12	46.5	2	2.01	540.73	46.5
Brazil	187.20	-8.3	19	-21.5	18	2.86	403.65	-17.6
Britain	346.31	-4.3	10	4.4	13	3.14	318.38	5.8
Canada	193.50	-5.3	16	-8.9	15	1.92	212.76	-3.3
Denmark	465.28	-4.6	13	4.0	14	1.49	452.96	3.8
Finland	436.50	-7.1	23	-58.7	1	1.83	500.42	57.2
France	308.10	-3.1	6	28.7	5	2.16	291.06	28.9
Germany	292.73	-3.8	8	23.2	6	1.21	294.12	23.2
Hong Kong	212.23	2.1	1	-40.6	24	7.36	211.16	-40.5
Indonesia	30.23	-1.0	2	-54.3	28	2.84	238.75	7.2
Ireland	483.40	-7.1	22	20.4	7	1.94	487.90	22.9
Italy	164.55	-2.6	5	39.9	3	1.35	217.95	40.3
Japan	83.16	-4.6	14	-12.7	17	1.03	78.50	-2.3
Malaysia	82.59	-11.0	30	-48.8	27	4.70	133.44	-45.0
Mexico	1,116.99	-9.0	29	-38.1	23	2.43	11,203.19	-28.5
Netherlands	480.93	-4.0	9	17.3	9	2.00	444.76	17.3
New Zealand	55.95	-7.3	24	-28.8	20	5.15	58.88	-15.7
Norway	262.62	-8.5	28	-17.8	18	2.29	272.43	-14.8
Philippines	63.94	-7.8	26	-32.0	22	1.45	116.12	-26.4
Singapore	128.31	-7.4	25	-43.9	25	2.97	101.72	-41.8
South Africa	182.79	-6.4	21	-31.1	21	3.53	251.91	-10.8
Spain	374.82	-4.7	15	37.9	4	1.78	432.86	37.9
Sweden	524.62	-5.7	18	11.7	11	1.85	633.17	14.8
Switzerland	402.88	-4.3	11	18.2	8	1.11	375.21	21.8
Thailand	10.20	-6.3	20	-47.2	26	5.70	15.54	-54.1
United States	435.45	-2.4	3	9.9	12	1.49	435.45	9.9

COMPOSITE INDICES						
Europe	339.41	- 4.1	17.4	2.10	324.35	18.4
Pacific Basin	87.83	- 4.1	-17.1	1.83	80.81	- 8.3
Europe/Pacific	192.71	- 4.1	5.7	2.03	172.74	9.3
World	271.20	- 3.3	6.8	1.76	252.04	8.8

Sources: Goldman, Sachs & Co. Exchange rates as of Friday's London close. © 1998 The Financial Times Ltd., Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Standard & Poor's.

CURRENCIES

Exchange rate	Friday	Last Friday	Week % Chg.	Year Ago
Japanese yen to the U.S. dollar	146.35	146.13	+0.15	117.40
German marks to the U.S. dollar	1.8014	1.7792	+1.25	1.8201
Canadian dollars to the U.S. dollar	1.5173	1.5220	-0.31	1.3908
U.S. dollars to the British pound	1.6192	1.6305	-0.69	1.6108

Sources: Bloomberg Financial Markets; exchange rates as of Friday's New York close. N.Y. Times News Service

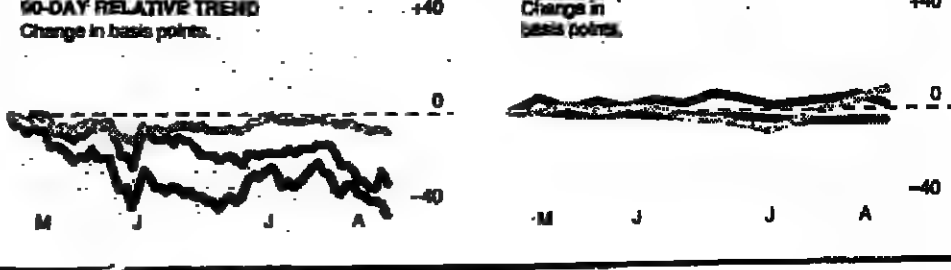
UPS AND DOWNS

Aug. 10-14: Market Fractures Multiply as Stocks Fall Further

PRICES	DOMESTIC EQUITIES	DOMESTIC BONDS	AROUND THE WORLD
Broad market	Down 2.45%	Treasuries	European stocks
S&P 500 index	1,082.75	Ryan Labs Total Return	F.T.-Actuaries Europe
Blue chips	Down 2.01%	Municipals	Asian stocks
Dow 30 industrials	8,425.00	Bond Buyer index	F.T.-Actuaries Pacific Basin
Small capitalization	Down 3.13%	Corporates	Gold
Russell 2000 index	402.79	Merrill Lynch Master index	New York cash price



YIELDS	BONDS	OTHER INVESTMENTS
Long bonds	5.54%	Money market funds
30-year Treasuries	Down 9 basis pts.	Taxable average
Notes	5.31%	Bank CDs
2-year Treasuries	Down 1 basis pt.	1-year small savers
Municipals	5.20%	Stocks
Bond Buyer index	Down 2 basis pts.	S&P 500 dividend yield



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Nothing but the Truth

Unlike any of his modern predecessors, Bill Clinton seems to believe that he lives beyond the reach of public disappointment. Otherwise, how could he talk about picking an architect and having Hollywood raise \$100 million for his Presidential library while at the same time allowing his aides to release the oddest trial balloon ever to float from the West Wing? We are now advised that the President of the United States may argue for continuance in office by telling a grand jury that he received oral sex, but that, in his view, the act did not constitute sexual relations since he did not touch any of the female body parts specified by a Federal judge.

The explanation is implausible. But the first thing that must be said goes not to Mr. Clinton's survival strategy, but to the nation's dilemma.

For the time being, this Presidency is a shell. For those who place Democratic Party dominance above all other civic values, the situation may seem tolerable. For many others, it is wrenching to know that most Americans believe that this President will not, cannot tell the full truth even if he is put under oath. It is also part of the national burden to know that whatever Mr. Clinton may have said in the past, he will usually insist on some retroactive interpretation that renders our language meaningless.

Even so, this President will speak again. To avoid the sin of prejudice, let us say that we hope his testimony will be replete and truthful and that soon afterward he will go on television and explain everything to the nation. Even at this late date, that catharsis might allow some measure of renewal in the White House and set a belatedly positive example for the nation. There is hardly a former Clinton aide now commenting on the networks who has not told him that both duty and the viability of his leadership demand such actions.

But experience makes us guess that Mr. Clinton and his lawyers will head in a different direction in order to pop through a window of survival that has opened in the last week. The Lewinsky chapter of the President's crisis is moving from its legal to its Congressional phase. On Capitol Hill, the Watergate comparison is taking hold. Some prominent Republicans believe that Mr. Clinton should not get the same punishment for a consensual sexual encounter that President Nixon got for violating the Constitution. In survivalist mode, Mr. Clinton's approach before the grand jury would be to offer a confession that contains enough truth to prevent Kenneth Starr from showing that outright perjury was committed and then to count on Congressional restraint and public opinion to forestall impeachment.

That is probably a sound political bet, providing

that no incontrovertible evidence regarding perjury or subornation of perjury comes out. There is also a perception that a new wave of public feeling — whether you call it sympathy, revulsion or simple weariness — is working for Mr. Clinton. That is true, up to a point. But a new CNN/USA Today poll indicates some limits to his ability to ignore public expectations for Presidential truthfulness. Only 28 percent said they would lose confidence in Mr. Clinton if he confessed to an affair, while over half said they would lose confidence if he canceled his testimony or refused to answer questions. The same poll found that 57 percent want an investigation of campaign finance, a step we have long regarded as essential however the Starr inquiry ends.

Attorney General Reno gave herself until late August to consider the recommendation of Louis Freeh, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and Charles La Bella, her lead prosecutor on campaign finance, that she appoint an independent counsel to look into fund-raising during the 1996 campaign. The questions of whether the Chinese Government funneled money to the Democrats and how the White House got hold of millions in illegal Asian contributions and ushered suspicious characters into Presidential meetings remain unanswered. These matters need to be resolved by an independent figure who is not beholden to Mr. Clinton.

The idea that the President ought to be a truthful citizen is an old one, but there is still life in it. The millions of Americans who are not knee-jerk party loyalists have had to learn that the price of supporting this President as a custodian of his office is high. Too often, they have been asked to endorse behavior that ranges from the potentially criminal handling of campaign money to casually ugly attacks on political critics. In that regard, Hillary Rodham Clinton's new charge that people oppose this Administration out of prejudice against Arkansas is particularly daft. It is also an insult to the state and to a nation that has in the past 35 years elected three Southerners born into modest circumstances.

The troubles of this Administration do not arise from geography, but from the conduct, attitude and style of this President and his highly individualistic way of interpreting and describing reality. He promised a Presidency of compassion. He has, through the steady avoidance of candor, been reduced to a Presidency of tactics. The American people, one senses, are tired, but not bereft of optimism. Already one feels the attention of the lustrous Republic turning, as subtly as the seasons, toward 2000 and the prospect of a Presidency founded on openness and steady principle.

Settling Switzerland's Debts

Switzerland's commercial banks have finally agreed to pay fair compensation to Jewish Holocaust survivors and their relatives. The \$1.25 billion settlement agreed to last week covers money the banks retained from accounts of Nazi-era Jewish depositors and profits made from handling Nazi gold and lending money to German companies employing Jewish slave labor.

Regrettably, the Swiss Government, whose central bank also made large profits from trafficking in gold the Nazis looted from their victims, neither contributed to nor endorsed the settlement. Even so, the agreement provides that the Holocaust survivors and their families who brought this case will pursue no further lawsuits against the Swiss Government or Swiss industrial companies on these issues.

Frightened by the rise of Hitler, European Jews in the 1930's and early 40's entrusted their savings and other assets to the banks of neutral Switzerland. But Swiss banks betrayed that trust after the war. With most of the original depositors dead or dispossessed, the banks treated these Jewish accounts as

dormant, retaining the money in them rather than repaying it to survivors and family members.

A commission headed by Paul Volcker, the former Federal Reserve chairman, has been reconstructing the records of these accounts. Swiss banks had already committed themselves to pay back all reconstructed accounts in full, at present value, after the Volcker report was complete. Recognizing that only a fraction of the accounts would ever be tracked down, the banks also offered to contribute a further \$600 million to a "rough justice" account.

But no settlement was reached until last week, when the banks, under pressure from threatened financial sanctions by local governments, including New York City and New York State, agreed to combine their previous offers into a single fund, increase the size of the package and begin payments right away. The settlement shows that people who have been grievously wronged by history can achieve a measure of belated justice, provided they fight for it persistently, and live long enough to collect what they are owed.

In the Age of Viagra, It's 'Patient, Heal Thyself'

To the Editor:

Re "Electric Kool-Aid Viagra," Frank Rich's Aug. 12 column: We permit people to self-diagnose and self-medicate illnesses like colds, influenza, headaches, diarrhea, constipation, allergic reactions, menstrual cramps, poison ivy dermatitis, fungus infections and heartburn. All of the nonprescription medications used for these conditions come with warnings about side effects, maximum doses and possible drug interactions. There is no logical reason why a person should not be permitted to self-diagnose and self-medicate erectile dysfunction.

Making Viagra a nonprescription drug would eliminate the gray market in the medication, relieve physicians of the nuisance created by people begging for prescriptions and put the quick-buck merchants out of business.

FRED LEVIT, M.D.
Chicago, Aug. 12, 1998

characteristics could be altered by an antidepressant. In other words, a drug might make you supranormal.

The savvy pharmaceutical industry may divert significant research and development away from common medical diseases toward a profitable line of "life enhancing" products.

RICHARD A. FRIEDMAN, M.D.
New York, Aug. 12, 1998

The writer is director of the psychopharmacology clinic at New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center.

Resistance to Science

To the Editor:

I was disappointed that Caroline Knapp (Op-Ed, Aug. 10) discouraged the use of the new medication acamprosate in the treatment of alcoholism. Although she notes that it "might" help some, she doesn't mention that both acamprosate and nal-

trexone, another new drug, have been found to cut relapse rates by up to 50 percent.

Ms. Knapp's anxiety about the use of medication reflects the position of many members of 12-step programs, who tend to dominate the alcoholism treatment field. Their resistance to new treatments they haven't tried themselves and their refusal to change techniques to reflect what science shows to be effective are partly why alcoholism treatment gets so little medical respect and insurance coverage.

MAIA SZALAVITZ
New York, Aug. 11, 1998

Help for Alcoholics

To the Editor:

Caroline Knapp (Op-Ed, Aug. 10) does a disservice to anyone struggling with alcoholism. No one suggests that acamprosate or any other drug should be the only treatment. But in mentioning "programs like Alcoholics Anonymous," Ms. Knapp betrays her loyalties, because there is no other program "like" A.A.

Although hundreds of thousands of alcoholics have achieved and maintained sobriety through A.A., a greater number have not. With its insistence on abstinence from all "substances," including psychotropic medications, A.A. may have harmed thousands of alcoholics whose underlying depressions and personality disorders have nothing to do with drink.

Anything that helps alcoholics recover should be welcomed with open arms.

PETER KURTZ
Colchester, Vt., Aug. 10, 1998

Better Than Normal?

To the Editor:

Re "Electric Kool-Aid Viagra" (column, Aug. 12): For better or worse, we have entered the age of cosmetic pharmacology. Until recently, most of us would only consider taking medication to lessen the symptoms of various diseases. Normal may no longer be good enough.

For example, a study in *The American Journal of Psychiatry* this year showed that relative to a placebo, Paxil, a serotonin-enhancing antidepressant, decreased hostility and increased social affiliation in normal volunteers. If replicated, this would mean that certain normal personality



Domonique Vial

Parents Can Force Flexibility in the Workplace

To the Editor:

Elizabeth McGuire raises some important issues but offers nothing new about balancing career and family (Op-Ed, Aug. 11).

How could she, since she is not yet a parent?

As a former full-time professional and now a stay-at-home mother, just 10 years older than Ms. McGuire, I lack neither ambition nor a progressive husband. Raising a family in our economy is tough, with little support from the workplace or the community. We have found that the traditional corporate ladder is not interested in changing on our behalf if it threatens profit.

Until society puts people before profits, parents will be left alone to struggle to meet family needs. The only way I see this happening is through a government mandate that requires corporations to grant extended paid parental leaves like those in Sweden.

CINDY L. PETERSON-DANA
Nanuet, N.Y., Aug. 12, 1998

Why We Stayed Home

To the Editor:

Elizabeth McGuire (Op-Ed, Aug. 11) wants corporate America to provide her with an employment structure that supports her future plans for motherhood. Forgive me for stating the obvious, but raising children is not the responsibility of the corporation or society.

A Husband's Divorce

To the Editor:

Re "Annulling a Tradition: Rabbinic Stir Furor by Helping 'Chained Women' to Leave Husbands" (news article, Aug. 13):

The purpose of a "get," or Jewish divorce paper, was originally to give a man time to reconsider his often abrupt, impulsive decision to throw his wife out into the street. In Middle Eastern cultures where no paper was needed to divorce, a woman might be cast out to starve. The requirement to give a get was a means to stall the man's ability to act on his anger.

How sad that this issue has had the opposite effect: the enslavement of Jewish women to men who may have severely abused them. Rabbi Emanuel Rackman and Rabbi Moshe Morgenstern are to be thanked for doing their share to end the extortion business behind the issuance of a get.

RUTH MAGID
Brooklyn, Aug. 13, 1998

My generation also had children when we were young. We lived in rented apartments, took day trips instead of vacations, shared baby clothes, stretched dollars beyond belief and willingly put our careers on hold.

We longed for intellectual challenge and adult conversation, but we stayed at home with our children to honor our commitment to them. Sheer determination and a passion for the gift of new life made it all work. My 10 years as a stay-at-home mother were exactly the "lengthy rests at base camp" Ms. McGuire is now demanding.

BARBARA BREEN
Hastings-on-Hudson, N.Y.
Aug. 13, 1998

Another Option

To the Editor:

Nowhere in Elizabeth McGuire's Aug. 11 Op-Ed article on balancing a career and family did she mention another increasingly popular option: not having any children at all. Remaining childless is not for everyone, but then again neither is parenthood.

ELIZABETH HEALY
Seattle, Aug. 12, 1998

Saving Lives at Sea

To the Editor:

Your Aug. 11 news article on the National Park Service's plan to move the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse refers to "the men who kept this light."

However, some 130 lighthouse keepers around the country and a large number of assistant keepers have been women.

A number had distinguished careers that spanned decades; they also conducted daring rescues off their lights. Ida Lewis, the keeper at Lime Rock Light in Newport, R.I., became a national hero in 1869 for her lifesaving efforts. President Ulysses S. Grant quipped that he would be willing to get "wet up to my armpits" to visit her.

In 1996 the Coast Guard commissioned its new Keeper Class of buoy tenders.

The first three have been named after women: Lewis, Katherine Walker of Robin's Reef Light in New York City and Abbie Burgess of Martinique Rock and Whitehead Lights in Maine.

C. KAY LARSON
New York, Aug. 13, 1998

Protecting Embassies

To the Editor:

Many casualties in the June 1998 bombing of the Khobar Towers near Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, in which 19 Americans were killed, were caused by flying glass (front page, Aug. 12). Months before, a United States military report had recommended that the windows at Khobar Towers be reinforced with plastic as a security precaution. Now it looks as if many of the Nairobi casualties were caused the same way. Should not this relatively inexpensive measure have been taken after the earlier explosion?

BRIAN R. MCCARTHY
Madison, Wis., Aug. 13, 1998

Chile's Abortion Law

To the Editor:

Re "Abortion Debated in Chile, Where It's Always a Crime" (news article, Aug. 9): Failing abortion providers will not stop women from seeking abortions or from risking their lives to do so. It will drive up costs and force even more women to undergo unsafe procedures. Furthermore, it will do nothing to reduce the underlying cause of abortion: lack of access to contraceptives and to comprehensive sexual and reproductive counseling and services.

Chile's lack of options propels women into a dangerous cycle of unwanted pregnancy and unsafe abortion. The proposed legislation would condemn providers to jail and many women to long-term disability or even death.

ELIZABETH LEITMAN
New York, Aug. 12, 1998

The writer is assistant program officer for Latin America for the International Women's Health Coalition.

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Editorial Observer/GAIL COLLINS

Welcome to New York: The Place Where Two Candidates Are a Crowd

Thirty Second Job Aptitude Quiz: Take this test to determine whether you have what it takes to be a Democratic party boss in New York City.

Problem: A Republican state senator who was unopposed last election has taken positions that are unpopular with the many immigrants in his district. A local school board official, who is also an immigrant and an active Democratic party worker, volunteers to run against him. Should you:

A) Break out the champagne and offer up a novena of thanksgiving.

B) Prepare for a primary, since you have been actively recruiting candidates yourself.

C) Tell him you do not want to see the Republican senator troubled with an opponent.

Congratulations if you picked C! You have a promising future within the New York Democratic Party. Everybody else will have to consider

careers in more vital industries, like blacksmithing.

Morshed Alam, school board member and president of the New American Democratic Club in Queens, was the candidate who volunteered to run for the State Senate seat long held by the Republican Frank Padavan. "Frank Padavan, I feel, is anti-immigrant, and for the last six years he didn't have any opposition," said Mr. Alam, who came here 14 years ago from Bangladesh.

The Queens Democratic chairman, Thomas Manton, was not pleased. Mr. Alam said Mr. Manton told him that he wanted to give Mr. Padavan a free ride so the Senator's supporters would stay home in November, making life easier for other Democrats in the area. "They said my candidacy could make Frank Padavan do more campaigning," reported Mr. Alam, who nevertheless persisted in getting onto the ballot.

There must be 50 ways to strip a ballot.

The Let Sleeping Senators Lie theory is one of the many excuses New York politicians find to skirt the dreaded prospect of actual elections — terrible, uncontrollable events in which voters are unleashed to do any wild and crazy thing they want. There is only one way to win an election in this state. But, to paraphrase Paul Simon, there must be 50 ways to avoid having one.

Quit late at night, Dwight. Don't make a fuss, Gus. Mr. Manton, who is also a member of Congress, recently took advantage of a small legal window of opportunity to retire and handpick his successor without the

fuss of a party primary. "I've always wanted to be in Congress," declared the lucky heir, Assemblyman Joseph Crowley, who is best known for loyalty to Mr. Manton and a successful drive to require the teaching of the history of the Irish potato famine in public schools. Asked to describe the qualities that distinguished Mr. Crowley from other Democrats who wanted the seat, Mr. Manton demurred. "I can't give you chapter and verse," he said. By the next day, he had settled on "youth."

The Queens Republican organization, observing a Let Sleeping Congressmen Lie rule, had not put up a candidate, and Mr. Crowley's opposition in November will be a minor party candidate and a political gadfly without organization or campaign funds. Privately, the Republican leaders expressed no hard feelings. "It was very clever," said one. "And of course Tom couldn't have allowed

a Democratic primary. It would have been a blood bath." (Snap Quiz: A blood bath is another word for A) massacre, B) slaughter, C) election.)

Look for the slip, Chip. Take him to court, Mort. Meanwhile in Brooklyn, Representative Edolphus Towns was energetically attempting to eliminate a primary challenger named Barry Ford through the classic method of claiming that a woman who collected voter signatures on Mr. Ford's behalf was not a registered Democrat residing in the Congressional district. This requirement goes back to the 1940's, when state legislators wanted to make sure that Communists from the Soviet Union did not slip into East Harlem to collect signatures for a left-wing Congressman named Vito Marcantonio.

These technical challenges are harder to make stick nowadays, but

they are still pursued through expensive court battles, all over the state. A Democratic novice Congressional candidate named Dick Collins temporarily managed to knock the incumbent Republican, Sue Kelly, off the ballot for failing to put numbers on her pages of signatures. The most interesting part of that story was the Democrat's refusal to acknowledge that any of Ms. Kelly's constituents might have been upset in November when they went to the polls and found nobody but Dick Collins on the ballot.

Representative Towns has not had a serious race in his 16-year career — Republicans are as plentiful as musk oxen in the 10th Congressional District. Yet the people fighting to get Mr. Ford tossed off the ballot seemed absolutely dumbfounded by the suggestion that the district voters would prefer having a choice.

"Do you feel that way about everybody in America?" asked his aide.

150 من الامل

Liberties

MAUREEN DOWD

1600 Madison Avenue

In the new Tommy Hilfiger ad, a luscious young woman with cascading hair, pouty mouth, black leather pants and bare feet is curled on top of the President's desk, casting a come-hither look. The American flag is behind her.

In another shot, the babe is squatting on the blue Oval Office rug, her knees over the Presidential seal, her eager face looking up.

Scandal chic has come to Madison Avenue. Patriotism and titillation — a winning combination to hawk backpacks and loafers.

Though a Hilfiger spokeswoman denied any connection, the ad is clearly a mischievous allusion to Monica and Bill. It is a landmark in advertising history to use the White House to conjure up an image of sexual high jinks.

The press release announcing the fall clothing campaign, shot on sets from the movies "Dave" and "The American President," is unintentionally hilarious: "This campaign showcases the optimistic spirit and energy of classic Americanism," said the designer Tommy Hilfiger. "We wanted to use as a theme what the White House represents to the American people — a symbol of hope. Our White House is all inclusive. Anyone could be President."

A Los Angeles computer retailer ran an ad in The Los Angeles Times boasting that its prices were "dropping faster than the President's pants." The Los Angeles Times also reported that the White House complained to Excite, an Internet search-engine company, about its ad suggesting that Mr. Clinton's handwriting showed a desire to "buy lingerie for that special someone."

This is the first scandal with product placement. Donna Karan, the Gap, Starbucks, Black Dog and Barnes & Noble have had cameos.

Jerry Della Femina, the Republican advertising executive, blames the President for setting a climate that gives advertisers permission "to make fun of the office. It's time I brought back Joe Isuzu."

Donny Deutsch, the advertising executive who worked on the Clinton campaign, thinks the Hilfiger ad will enhance the President's allure.

"The Hilfiger ad glamorizes the scandal, brings it to true fantasy as opposed to the tawdry reality," he says. "A beautiful young woman in the most powerful universe in the world. It's right out of a romance novel. A young maiden in a castle. It adds to Clinton's potency."

He's curious to see what endorsement deals Monica is offered. "She is the woman who almost brought down the free world," he said.

At the television critics' tour in Pasadena last month, the UPN network unveiled a sitcom called "The Secret Diary of Desmond Pfeiffer," set in Lincoln's White House, which jokes that Mrs. Lincoln's mental illness might be the result of sexual frustration and that President Lincoln occasionally longs for the companionship of young boys.

Selling a frisky Oval Office.

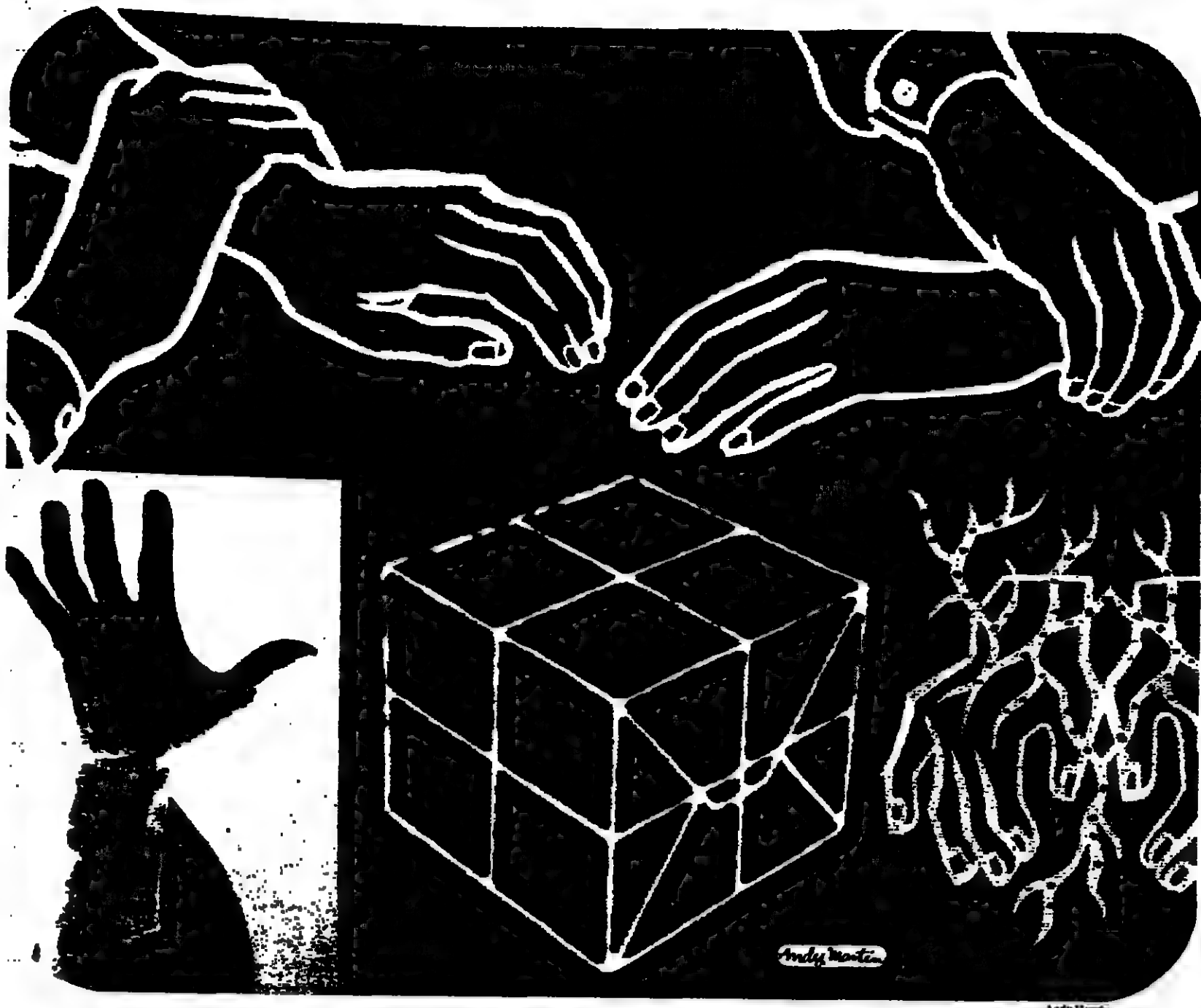
The producers acknowledged that the excesses of the Clinton White House had helped make any Presidency fair game for ridicule.

It's hard to get that moral authority thing rolling when the White House is polling to see whether or not the President should tell the truth.

Mr. Clinton has condemned himself to provide lurid entertainment for a society addicted to lurid entertainment. He has a double-entendre Presidency, where the nightly news is now the nightly gross-out, where talk of an address to the nation collapses into snickering about a dress to the nation.

In the '92 race, Mr. Clinton said he wanted to be at the center of a national conversation. Whoever imagined the conversation would be so salacious? So far, we have discussed: What is sex? Does a President have the right to cheat on his wife? Should the public care about infidelity if the wife doesn't? Is private consensual sex the proper domain of a special prosecutor? Is extramarital sex the one thing a husband should lie about? What is a lie?

Covering Ronald Reagan, we avoided the word "lying," even though Mr. Reagan was prone to spin myths and say black was white. It just seemed too disrespectful of the office. Now, it has become commonplace. If you do a search in Lexis-Nexis with "President Clinton" and "lie," the computer replies: "Your search has been interrupted because it will probably retrieve more than 1,000 documents."



What War Looks Like Now

By Robert M. Gates

After the bombings of our embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, the bombing of the World Trade Center, and the bombings in Riyadh and Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, in 1995 and 1996, Americans must face the reality that more such attacks are inevitable, perhaps using weapons of even more terrifying power.

Strengthening protection of our embassies and other official sites is important, and Americans owe it to our fellow citizens who represent us abroad to give this effort priority. But our people and our Government must accept another reality: as potential official American targets are "hardened," terrorists will simply turn to non-official soft targets — businesses, schools, tourists and so on. We can perhaps channel the threat away from the United States Government, but not away from Americans.

So, what then is to be done about terrorism? There is certainly no shortage of opinions on this score. Some of the advice is wise counsel, and some of it is nonsense. I would count as nonsense suggestions from various quarters in recent days that we lift the ban on assassinating our enemies.

How, in this most politically open society in the world, can anyone consider choosing a weapon against which we are the most vulnerable in the world? There are other reasons not to go down this path, from the mundane (when last we tried assassinations, in the late 1950's and early 1960's, we didn't seem to be very good at it) to the philosophical (the assassin's bullet seems a singularly inappropriate instrument of foreign policy for the world's greatest democracy).

More realistically, and helpfully, there have been a number of suggestions for improvements in intelligence and law enforcement counterterrorism capabilities. No doubt, some ideas in these arenas have merit, and more resources certainly can be used to pay for reward money, improved clandestine human intelligence, and so on.

But, in truth, Americans can take pride in already existing C.I.A. and F.B.I. counterterrorism capabilities. Indeed, there have been important pre-emptive and law enforcement strikes against terrorists over the past 15 years.

No, the great deficiency in American counterterrorism efforts in the summer of 1998 is not strictures against assassination, nor inadequacies in intelligence and law enforcement. The deficiency is political and strategic. It is in the perpetuation of myth and deception and spin by both the executive and legislative branches of our government, by both political parties, who seem unable to level with the American people.

Here are some realities the Government does not acknowledge. Most of our counterterrorism successes are against loners (like the gunman who killed two people outside the C.I.A.'s headquarters in 1993) or against foot soldiers of larger terrorist organizations.

Robert M. Gates, a career intelligence officer, served on the National Security Council staff under four Presidents and was Director of Central Intelligence under President George Bush.

Our failures — for example, to get the Pan Am 103 bombers out of Libya to stand trial, or to get more information out of the Saudi Government about the 1995 and 1996 bombings — are the result of conscious but unspoken Government decisions about political priorities.

To get the Pan Am 103 bombers out of Libya would require an ultimatum to the Libyan Government that the two be turned over to a court in England or Scotland within a short time or our military would, step by step, day by day, turn Libya's military establishment and then its oil industry into a smoldering ruin. Of course, we would be alone, acting unilaterally, and in the face of near-unanimous international obloquy.

Getting the Saudis to tell us what they probably know about foreign responsibility for the bombings in Riyadh and Dhahran would require playing very high economic, political and security cards — a massive use of leverage — that would have long-lasting and negative consequences for the American-Saudi relationship and our presence in the Persian Gulf. In both cases, our Government, perhaps wisely, has chosen not to act in such a blunt manner.

So, the first reality about our counterterrorism policy is that we face conflicting national priorities. The politically difficult and, indeed, unspeakable issue is whether the level of American casualties from terrorism is acceptable to our Government compared with the political, security and economic consequences of a far more militant approach to dealing with terrorism.

Fighting terrorism requires more than ultimatums.

Another unacknowledged and unpleasant reality is that a more militant approach toward terrorism would, in virtually all cases, require us to act violently and alone. No other power will join us in a crusade against terrorism — in fact, some "friendly" governments protect their countries against terrorism by cutting deals with the groups, allowing them operational freedom.

No political or economic sanctions would work. Only violence. Only alone. And only if we can figure out how and against whom to retaliate.

A third reality is that retributive violence, no matter how massive, almost inevitably begets more violence against us in response. Conventional wisdom holds that President Ronald Reagan's attack on Libya in 1986 chastened Muammar el-Qaddafi and essentially ended Libyan terrorism.

Not true. Many experts believe that the Libyan bombing of Pan Am 103 in 1988 was, in fact, in retaliation for the 1986 bombing attack on Libya, and that there were probably other acts of Libyan terrorism after 1988.

There is no quick, clean or conclusive end to retribution against terrorists. The war is the quintessential "long, twilight struggle," with limited casualties on the terrorists' side, occasional appalling casualties on our side, and countless victims

caught in between, as we have seen in Africa.

The painful question facing the American people and the American Government today — as in the mid-1980's — is whether to make a war against terrorism our highest priority in foreign policy. A war in which broader American political, economic and security interests would be sacrificed to our own jihad, or holy war, against terrorists.

This, then, brings us to the final reality of how Americans must respond to terrorist acts as we have seen in Saudi Arabia, Kenya and Tanzania. We will never prevent all — or even most — such acts. In the world of real choices, we can protect ourselves better. We can bring some terrorists to justice. But, above all, we can pursue policies and strategies that in the long term weaken terrorism's roots.

We can pursue a peace in the Middle East that does not kowtow to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's obstructionism and betrayal of Yitzhak Rabin's legacy. We can carefully pursue a nascent dialogue with President Mohammad Khatami of Iran and not play into the hands of his militant domestic adversaries (who may see terrorism against us as hitting two birds with one stone).

We can promote human rights and political freedom in the Middle East as we did in the Soviet Union and try to do now in Asia. We can use force against the sponsors of terrorism, whether governments or groups, or, in the case of individuals, we can arrest and try them to show that our reach is, in fact, as long as our memory. And to show that those who send would-be martyrs to attack us do themselves invite martyrdom — or American jail.

This mix of force and diplomacy, this reliance on patience and planning, the painful realization of more casualties to come, is not satisfying emotionally. It does not quench the thirst for revenge or justice; it does not offer beguilingly simple answers to complex problems and difficult choices. In reality, though, it is the only sustainable course.

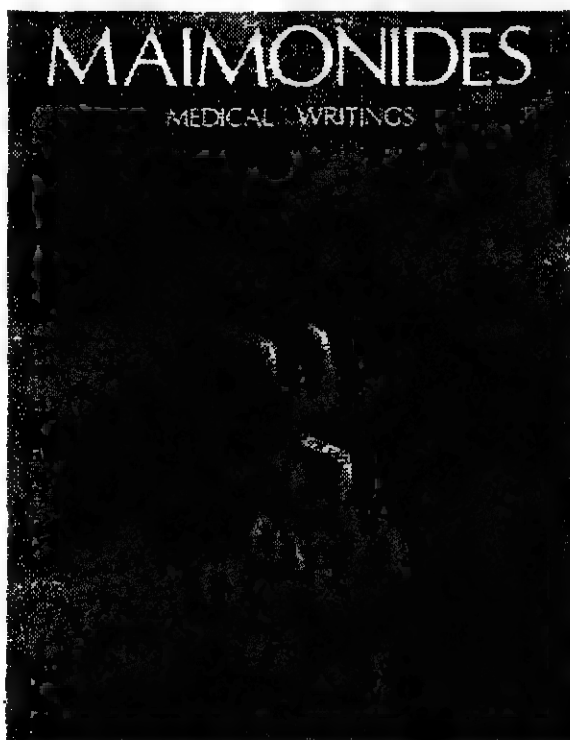
But even this approach to dealing with terrorism cannot be sustained absent a broader American strategy for dealing with the world beyond our borders. No successful counterterrorism strategy is possible unless our leaders accept that the United States cannot insulate itself from the rest of humankind, cannot treat the rest of the world as a part-time interest or a political football, and cannot abdicate the responsibilities and costs and sacrifices of global leadership.

Republicans and Democrats alike must stop hiding behind public opinion polls that purport to show that Americans don't like foreign commitments, especially those possibly involving sacrifice. Americans in this century rarely have enthusiastically accepted international commitments.

It has required courageous and farsighted leadership in Washington — above all from the President, but with Congressional support — to persuade Americans of the need to lead and to protect our interests around the world, even knowing that the cost in blood and treasure may at times be high. Such leadership has been sadly lacking in recent years at both ends of Pennsylvania Avenue.

Terrorism against Americans will be a fixture of our world for a long time. Real leadership in Washington would help Americans understand the realities of this protracted war and the importance of consistent American leadership and involvement in a world caught up in revolutionary change.

Real leadership — Republican and Democratic — would speak honestly to the American people, without spin or cant or partisanship, about the realities of a world we dominate but do not control.



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THE ARTS

Just Another Word for Nothing Left to Prove

By ELIZABETH KAYE

HE looks weathered. He is weathered. "I got a face like a catcher's mitt," he says.

But still, there is something about him that inflames the Walter Mitty fantasies of men and the hidden longings of women. It's a quality that emerged first in his songwriting, then onscreen, and owes a lot to an old-time manner that used to be called being genuine. If sentimentality is the tendency to show more than one actually feels, Kris Kristofferson is the opposite of sentimental: the man who feels so much that he cannot help but show it.

He is what he wrote about, a walking contradiction — a Rhodes scholar propelled though life less by reason than by impulse; a Golden Gloves boxer blessed with a poet's understanding of irredeemable loss and late-night yearnings. Rugged yet capable of being wounded, solitary yet reachable, he veers between two styles: supremely laid back and wound tighter than most. He is perceived as a sexual icon, though his sexuality derives from an intense fragility usually associated with women.

There have been times when he was weary, convinced he had done it all. Yet he found his way to new starts. His laugh is explosive, contagious, fierce, the flip side of a long struggle with sadness.

When he was a boy, music reached him with a force that was nonnegotiable. "It felt like something I needed," he says. In it, he discovered what he calls "honest emotion," an ideal that he sought in ephemeral encounters with numberless women until he found it with his third wife and the eight children he had fathered in the course of his marriages.

Long ago, he was a restive prowl, spurred by quarts of tequila and Jack Daniels, which let him "keep my brain in the condition that I liked it," as he tells it. Now he is satisfied, though he never sought to be satisfied, having always believed that it was hunger that impelled him. By the early 1970's, he had written the line "Freedom's just another word for nothing left to lose" and was being featured in movies as a pot-head, a cowboy, a drifter. In the process, he came to represent the

vall would be way better in this part than me.")

On this particular day, he enters his trailer just before noon, wearing faded black jeans and worn Tony Lama cowboy boots. He emerges moments later, costumed in attire similar to what he just shed. As always, he's on time for his call; he has never been one of those stars people have to wait for.

IN "A Soldier's Daughter Never Cries," Mr. Kristofferson seems to be at one with the character he is playing in a way that has not been the case since he played the doomed rock star in Barbra Streisand's 1976 remake of "A Star Is Born." "There's a seamlessness between Kris and Jones," says the director James Ivory, who noticed early on that the actor was ad-libbing lines that sounded markedly like things Jones might have said.

The author's daughter, Kaylie Jones, who wrote the novel upon which the picture is based, was instantly struck by the resemblance between them. "There's a wisdom and kindness in the eyes, eyes that have seen a lot," she says.

Among other things, the film — set in Paris and on Long Island in the 1960's and 70's — illuminates the warmhearted relationships between Jones and his daughter and adopted son. Mr. Kristofferson told Ms. Jones that he hoped his children would someday feel for him a love as profound as the love she holds for her father, who died in 1977. Playing Jones has caused him to summon the best of himself, that unstinting tenderness that infuses his songs. "He's met a role that really shows who he is," says Barbara Hershey, who plays Marcella Willis, the character based on Jones's wife, Gloria.

Mr. Kristofferson was born and reared in a Texas border town, Brownsville, and spoke Spanish before he spoke English. He was the only son of an Air Force major general, and it was assumed that he would follow his father into the military. But he had a will of his own that first manifested itself, as he recalls, when he was about 5. His parents were making fun of Gene Autry's music. He turned to them and said, "I think he sings real good."

Still, he was sufficiently his father's son to be nicknamed Straight Arrow by his classmates when he



Kris Kristofferson, left, with James Ivory, filming "A Soldier's Daughter Never Cries." Kristofferson plays a character based on James Jones.

asleep in a hover and got himself dismissed. Ashamed and despairing, he holed up at the Evangeline Motel in Lafayette, La. "How did it come to this?" he wondered. "My wife and kids are off in California and I've got nothing to show for five years of torment to my whole family."

But his was to be a distinctly American story, rife with re-invention and sudden redemption. A few days later, he bought a six pack of beer, drove to the New Orleans airport and flew back to Nashville, where he found out that he had landed a gig on "The Johnny Cash Show."

That was the beginning. The next year, his "Sunday Morning Comin' Down" won the Country Music Association award for best song of 1970, and he also won the songwriter-of-the-year award. He never quite believed how good his music was, even as he wrote hits like "Help Me Make It Through the Night," "For the Good Times" and "Me and Bobby McGee." His songs were somehow spiritual and carnal, and steeped in an uncanny feel for the way that possibility turns to cinders. Other songwriters envied and admired them. His idol, Mr. Cash, said, "They made me want to write better."

THEN Mr. Kristofferson went on the road, and his existence changed. "From that time on, I expected to live an accelerated life," he recalls. "I wanted to experience and taste as much as I could." He worried about missing out on things, but the truth was that by the time he had barreled through his first 40 years, he hadn't missed much.

He began making movies in 1971, with a role, perversely enough, in "The Last Movie." In an era when traditional sex roles were being challenged, he was the right man for the time, one who could never be accused of being irritatingly macho because he had such abundant male authority that exerting it was unnecessary. In 1974, Martin Scorsese cast him in "Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore" as the understanding rancher who encourages a woman's freedom. With its release, he saw his face on the cover of Rolling Stone. "Well," he said in his laconic way, "I guess this means I made it."

He had come from worlds that tended to view acting as a disreputable pursuit for a self-respecting man. At times, he was a little embarrassed by it himself, though he was far too disciplined to regard it casually. During the filming of "Semi-Tough," in 1977, he engaged a visitor to his trailer in a lengthy conversation that he continued even though, he noted, he should be working on his lines. "Listen to that," he exclaimed, "I really should be working on my lines," he said with all the moral flabbiness he could muster!

In fact, he took moviemaking seriously, perhaps more seriously than he felt a writer should. "For Christ's sake, Shakespeare was an actor," he said defensively.

He was at the peak of his form in 1979 when Michael Cimino cast him in that troubled epic of Western America "Heaven's Gate." It was a heady time. Everything looked so promising, except that shortly before filming started, Mr. Kristofferson's second marriage, to the singer Rita Coolidge, had fallen apart, leaving him desolate at the prospect of not bringing up his young daughter. Eventually he shared custody, but at the time, he felt he had lost everything that mattered. Mr. Cimino induced him to use that feeling, and the camera recorded the blank, stunned look in his deep-set eyes, the look of someone newly acquainted with the unbearable.

As the costs on "Heaven's Gate"

rocketed to \$30 million, the movie became a poster child for the general sense that excess in Hollywood must be curbed. At the Cannes Film Festival, an MGM executive made a speech saying that the picture proved that money should not be placed in the hands of creative people. For years afterward, recollection of that comment infuriated Mr. Kristofferson. "Who're they going to give the money to?" he growled.

"Uncreative people?" "Heaven's Gate" turned out to be a thick brush to be tarred with, and afterward his career wasn't quite the same. He worked consistently, but until the role in "Lone Star" improved his fortunes, he did some work that truly interested him, as in Alan Rudolph's "Trouble in Mind" (1985) and a lot that probably didn't interest him at all, as in "Big Top

Pee-Wee" (1988).

Now, gratified to be in a Merchant Ivory film, he feels good as he ambles across the yard toward a house meant to be the one in Waterville, N.Y., that Jones and his family moved to from Paris.

On this day, Mr. Kristofferson and Ms. Hershey are filming a scene in which they play poker with several other people. Between shots, he tells stories. He has hundreds of stories from years of touring with friends and colleagues like Willie Nelson: "Willie came out onstage to sing with me one time, and I said to him, 'I'm losin' my voice.' He said, 'How can you tell?'"

Reaching across the card table, Mr. Kristofferson grabs a cigar, lights it and takes the smoke deep into his lungs. "You aren't supposed to inhale," Ms. Hershey tells him. "If

I don't inhale it," he says, "I feel like Clinton."

He is more comfortable here than he has ever been on a movie set. But then, it makes sense that Mr. Kristofferson is at ease portraying James Jones. For all that he has been and done, his occupation, emblazoned in his heart and stated on his passport, has always been writer.

Increasingly, he is struck by the degree to which he finds himself in Jones. "Willie Morris said that as Jones got older, it wasn't that he became gentle, but that he was gentled," Mr. Kristofferson explains. And as the days of filming go by, the actor's work resounds with a special gentleness, the sort reserved for men who have known many things, among them, what it is to be a ti-



Kris Kristofferson with Barbara Hershey in "A Soldier's Daughter."

possibility of life without compromise, of being unencumbered.

Kris Kristofferson is 62 now. He once had a stubborn streak as wide and deep as a canyon, but these days he is chastened and changed, inclined to invoke William Blake's dictum "If a fool persists in his folly he would become wise." The notion that he's a symbol of freedom produces the wry grin that means he is laughing at himself. "But," he says, "I guess that's what I am — said the man with eight children."

He is speaking on a warm day last December in Wilmington, N.C., two weeks before the conclusion of principal photography on the Merchant Ivory film "A Soldier's Daughter Never Cries." In the movie, which will open Sept. 18, he plays Bill Willis, a character based on James Jones, the expatriate American writer best known for the World War II novels "From Here to Eternity" and "The Thin Red Line."

This is the eighth film Mr. Kristofferson has made in the two years since his life as an actor was recharged by his portrayal of the vicious sheriff Charlie Wade in John Sayles's "Lone Star." He also appears in two movies that soon: as an obdurate vampire hunter in "Blade," an action picture also starring Wesley Snipes, and the lone and remote owner of a dance studio in "Dance With Me," a role he accepted apprehensively. ("You know," he said in his first meeting with the director Randa Haynes, "Robert Du-

was an undergraduate at Pomona College in California. When he started drinking, though, he established that moderation was not his style. He went on to Oxford University, where he studied Blake, implacably drawn to a dominion that combined spirituality and imagination.

After school, he joined the Army and became a pilot. He loved to fly, but his increasingly chaotic spirit was constrained by military ways. He yearned to write songs, but by then he was married and had two children to support, so he tried to carry on in the Army. Finally, after leaving a teaching post at West Point, he quit the military, telling his wife, "I can't live under the weight of all those rules." He was discovering what life would teach him repeatedly: that there was a crucial difference between who he was and who he thought he should be.

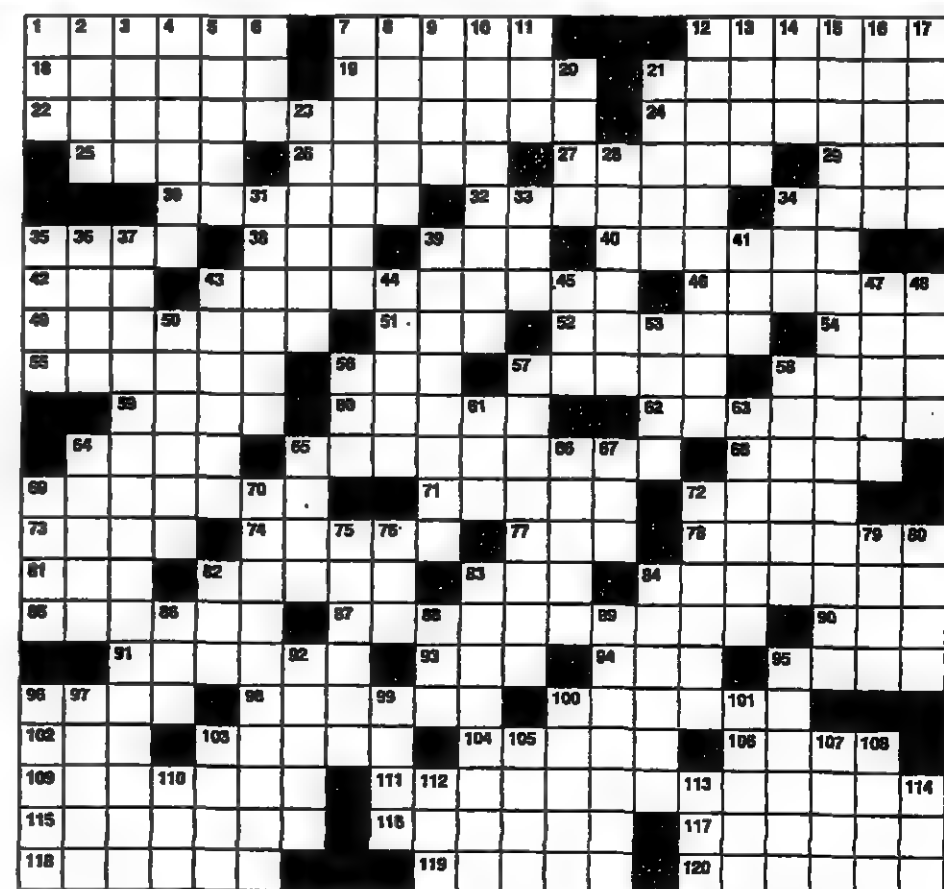
Leaving his family in California, he headed for Nashville, where he got a job as a janitor at a recording studio. "It was enough to keep me alive and in touch with the world I was trying to enter," he remembers. By day, he mopped floors. At night, he hung out at the Tally-Ho Tavern, where he drank beer, ate barbecue and swapped songs. As time passed, he felt ever more deeply in love with the music and the musician's life, which he construed as his salvation.

Two weeks a month, he flew helicopters in the Gulf of Mexico to make money to send back home. But his carousing became extreme; he fell

YOU CHAUVINIST PIG!

BY BRENDAN EMMETT QUIGLEY / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**
- Cough medicine ingredient
 - Time changes?
 - Finishes
 - Rachmaninoff song, with "The"
 - Earth threatener
 - Attitudinize
 - Duck and dodge
 - Not according to Hoyle
 - He played Bob in "La Bamba"
 - Patrols
 - Mexican restaurant entree
 - Part of NATO: Abbr.
 - Coagulation protein
 - Forgets one's lines, e.g.
 - Hunted
 - Marathoner's complaint
 - Book end?
 - Danielle Steel's "Message From"
 - Note in the B major scale
 - Even if
 - Warhol subject
 - Diner offering
 - Receivers of children's "telephones"
 - Last word of the year, often
 - Beamed
 - Wahoos of the A.C.C.
 - Logging-on requirement
 - Baseball V.P.'s
 - Mexican boxer?
 - "Abdul Abdul" (1927 tune)
 - Cry of pain
 - Hard up
 - Fryolator fill
 - Place for padding or padding
 - Like clothes at the laundromat
 - Exert pressure (on)
 - Bejart of ballet
 - Some are cheap
 - First name in 60's rock
 - Co— (appropriates)
 - "Demian" author
 - Fulfilled
 - 1924 gold medal swimmer
 - Cager Longley
 - Without
 - "Meet the Press" host Russell
 - Like punkies, vs. 4-vis fleas
 - Kind of cuisine
 - Excalibur, e.g.
 - Minnesota twins?
 - Actresses Elizabeth and Alexander
 - Maritime init.
 - Dutch piano center
 - Boon: Prefix



- DOWN**
- They, in Calais
 - Scafell— (highest point in England)
 - "The Whiffenpoof Song" singers
 - Wine order
 - When Macbeth slays Duncan
 - Chicago hrs.
 - Professor—
 - Vouchsafe
 - "Make—" (captain's order)
 - Legal precedent
 - Trifle
 - Controversial premiere of 1879, with "A"
 - 1953 Winter Olympics site
 - When Nancy is hot
 - Tchaikovsky dancers
 - Hot
 - Nice girl?
 - Defaulter's worry
 - A lot
 - Women's groups
 - Giraffes' cousins
 - One with light locks
 - WellCare, for one
 - Start to mature
 - One of the Near Islands
 - XXX, in a way
 - General Mills cereal
 - Twiddle
 - Gig gear
 - Asian capital of 2.6 million
 - Best Supporting Actress of 1992
 - Diminutive suffix
 - Lake of Geneva resort
 - Cutting
 - Old yellers
 - Lincoln in-law
 - Econ. concern
 - Some royal tombs
 - "2001" extras
 - W.W. II gen.
 - Skipped
 - Shot
 - Gone out with
 - Agenda listing
 - Exaggerator's suffix
 - Lawn wrecker
 - "Crystal Silence" jazzman
 - Boosé
 - Venn diagram representation
 - Georgia was one: Abbr.
 - Time to give up
 - Highlands tongue
 - Year in Sylvester II's papacy
 - Gustatory sensor
 - So far
 - "We Do Our Part" org.
 - Non's opposite
 - Goes back on one's word
 - Curvilinear
 - Royal fern
 - Poe's middle name
 - "Somewhere in Time" star
 - 99 Rights
 - Beginning, in slang
 - Clinton was one
 - Uncovered
 - Luke Skywalker, e.g.
 - Family troubles
 - Flyspeck
 - Canine command
 - mort (melancholy)
 - 113 3251 or 23
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John Mankins, 42, is one of the government's roughly two dozen researchers responsible for dreaming up futuristic ideas for human space exploration and development. (The Baltimore Sun)

NASA's spaced-out developer

John Mankins' government career can be traced through the drawings on his office wall: a rocket whizzing from an Earth-based slingshot into outer space, a glittering moon colony, a giant bug-like contraption fueling a spacecraft in interstellar darkness.

Crazy ideas? Not to Mankins. In his job at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, he is paid to come up with concepts so far-out they sometimes only get laughed at. Consider him one of NASA's sci-fi guys.

"I try to be reasonably conservative with my ideas," Mankins says, looking as though he has just come through a brainstorm, with his rumpled hair and government ID dangling askew. "Nobody believes that." Later, he adds, "There are people out there who think I'm nuts."

Mankins, 42, is one of the government's roughly two dozen researchers responsible for dreaming up futuristic ideas for human space exploration and development. At best, his eureka moments might shape the next century. At worst, his far-reaching visions could fall into NASA's own black hole, forever ignored. More likely, the outcome will be a little of both.

Day after day, Mankins combines sophisticated scientific theory with fanciful imagination to churn out ideas that look to the outsider-like the government version of a *Star Trek* set.

"I've stopped reading most science fiction," Mankins sighs. "It's too much like talking shop."

It is lonely work. Recently, Mankins finished a nearly two-year study about outer-space tourism, geared toward persuading

John Mankins gets paid to think like a science-fiction fanatic, drawing his ideas from anything from diaper containers to the latest sci-fi flick, he tells Ellen Gamerman

families to vacation in lower-Earth orbit instead of, say, in Orlando. The study, set far in the future, caused barely a ripple in the mainstream media. The report opened with the words "carpe diem." Not many in the mainstream did.

Mankins, a physicist who went to NASA 11 years ago after working at the Jet Propulsion Lab in Pasadena, Calif., says obscurity is not always a bad thing.

If his tourism study had stirred splashy publicity, "it would have gotten a lot more criticism from people who didn't believe it could happen," he says. So far, none of Mankins' big ideas—including his proposal for space theme parks and orbiting hotels—has been adopted. Still, he believes some will in his career, despite those who doubt.

In this line of work, "the giggle factor" is just part of the job.

"It's sort of a compliment when people call you crazy," says Whit Brantley, a colleague of Mankins' who directs the advanced systems and technology office at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala. "A lot of people before us have been called that, and they turned out to have good ideas that were later appreciated."

Brantley cites Galileo, who was just about tarred and feathered in the 17th century after arguing that

the Earth was not at the center of the universe. A century ago, Nikola Tesla was ridiculed for his work on long-distance power transmission and his proposal that all electrical power be free. The fights go on, Brantley says, "and it gets downright blood-curdling

"I've stopped reading most science fiction, it's too much like talking shop"

— John Mankins

sometimes."

As for Mankins, he did not take the \$101,000-a-year job for controversy—rather, he finds it the perfect pursuit for a self-described "space cadet" who grew a goatee long before it was considered cool. A California native who has a master's degree in physics from Harvey Mudd College—a science and engineering school near Los Angeles—he came of age in Santa

Maria, Calif., pressing his nose to the television screen any time there was a rocket launch.

In conversations with non-scientists, Mankins drops the complex aerospace terminology and relies mostly on intergalactic-themed TV shows to describe his line of work. "In *Star Trek Voyager* there was an alien race called the Borgs—this was much bigger than one of the Borg mother ships," Mankins says, talking about an old NASA idea for a space factory.

"Did you see *Babylon 5*? It was much bigger than (the space station) *Babylon 5*."

Mankins looks everywhere for ideas—not just in serious scientific tomes. He knows what time and channel all the best space-travel television shows are on, tapes quotes from his favorite German mathematician on his office walls and scribbles brainstorm ideas on an erasable board in purple pen.

Sometimes, inspiration comes from the most unlikely places.

Take the design for his proposed Sun Tower, a series of solar panels that would beam power back to Earth from a spot in outer space. Mankins dreamed it up one afternoon as he stared into a Diaper Genie while his young daughter, Willa, was being changed. There, in the diaper storage unit, he saw the idea—identical pieces inter-

locking to form a stack of plastic diaper bags.

"I kept looking at how the inserts were plugged together," he said. "It was a flash." He realized that the same concept could be used for his tower, which would assemble itself using identical sections meant to interlock after reaching space. Using a similar contraption, he also envisions spacecraft hooking up and refueling at a solar-generated power station in mid-flight.

But these are vastly expensive ideas, and in this field, money is nearly as elusive as space dust.

"People are always interested in new ideas and find them exciting," Brantley says. "It's only when it competes with their budget that they become reluctant."

NASA wins praise from researchers for supporting futuristic studies, though the advanced projects office for space flight receives only \$10 million of NASA's \$13.6 billion budget.

These days, Mankins is working on a way to use the moon as a launch site for interstellar voyages.

He also developed an idea to use a high-tech angled slingshot, instead of a launch pad, to hurl spacecraft from Earth. And he is eager to see NASA plan colonies at the North or South poles, with more constant sunlight.

Mankins hopes he will see his concepts in space during his lifetime. He knows plenty has to happen first, but he has reason to be optimistic.

"I have a grandfather five generations removed who lived to be 111 years old," he says. "So I've got another 70 years... at least."

(The Baltimore Sun)

Poor ol' us

'You know who's the most discriminated against in the country?' Zelda Harris asked.

The Moroccans? Ethiopians? Russians? Romanian laborers? Arabs?

"No. Us."

The Anglo Saxim? We, who bear this superiority complex among the ingathered exiles?

At first, because this was Zelda Harris on the phone, I assumed she was talking about discrimination against safe drivers. But no, this time her dander was up over socio-political clout which, in this country, is the only important thing.

She had read in this column about the American woman who carved a niche as the classic sweet little old lady of advertising, and who had (almost) never been allowed a speaking part because of the taint of an (almost) unnoticeable accent.

Zelda's been here since '49, and she's still coming up against it. "We [Metuna, the organization she co-founded to change driving behavior] were asked to provide someone to speak on TV about road accidents. And they said to make sure the person didn't have an Anglo accent. Can you imagine!"

Can you imagine the rumble if someone was asked not to have a Moroccan accent?

Israelis have a rapacious

stay. Israelis cannot understand why we've come here to stay. We're perpetually The Temporary Resident, the quirky foreigner making a brave attempt at a stammering fluency with their language, but always on the verge of going back to where we came from, because we can't find a good hairdresser, or the price of Fluffemutter is too high.

At a dinner party recently, I overheard this conversation between two former North Americans: "Y'know, next week I'll have been in this country 25 years."

"Think you'll stay?"

Everyone laughed, but I wonder if the Israelis really got it. We're the do-gooders, the eternal outsiders, a threat to the rule of mediocrity, the bloody-minded dreamers who willingly left homelands they desperately want to go to. We're a constant, irritating reminder of what this country could be, but can't be.

There ain't much in the way of idealism here anymore, but it's usually those damn Yankees, Drommies, Britim, Canucks and Ozies at the heart of it. Love 'em or hate 'em, the last vestige of active idealism—the settlers—are to an outsized degree Anglos.

Women in Green, Women in Black, and what was formerly known as the Women in Red

Not Page One



Sam Orbaum

We're the do-gooders, the eternal outsiders, a threat to the rule of mediocrity, the bloody-minded dreamers who willingly left homelands they [Israelis] desperately want to go to

appetite for Anglo culture, but say "hamburger" instead of "humboorgehr," and they'll snicker behind your back.

You can name the Anglos of influence in Israel's history on the toes of a three-toed sloth. Golda; Abba Eban; Chaim Herzog. The latter two climbed to lofty rungs, but they never achieved high respect even in their own parties.

Who've we had in the last generation? Phht!

Every other sizable ethnic group has its lobby, political party, MK or spokesman. When we're slighted, we'd have to hope the American ambassador sticks up for us. Or Tal Brody.

Think about it: there's absolutely nobody.

There is a Canadian in the Knesset—but he's representing the Russians in a Russian immigrant party, for goodness sake.

We're so feeble, no party has ever felt a need to include a token Anglo—with the exception of former National Religious Party MK Yehuda Ben-Meir.

Problem is, we can't make a stink about it, because as soon as we open our mouths they're laughing at us again. Perhaps we should get a native to campaign for us.

Take your doxy accent and go ask an MK for support or funding. He'll direct you to the nearest American millionaire.

The establishment cannot accept that we've come here to

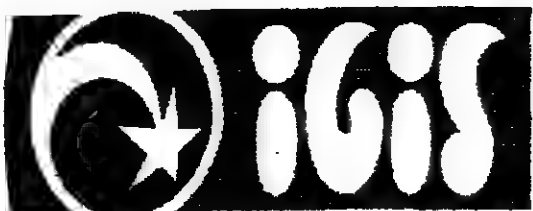
(Metuna's campaigners) are predominantly U.S. Voluntarism, self-help, conservatism, Project Renewal—hey, they didn't originate in Poland, Iraq, Russia or Tunisia. Us again: the national freiers.

But I'll tell you something: I've learned to use it to advantage. I've carefully cultivated my miserable accent, because I've found Israelis are amused by it, and they try a little harder to accommodate me, because, nebbich, I sound like I just arrived yesterday. I put on a babe-in-the-woods act that usually wins a little pity.

Still, it doesn't put my kinsmen in the Knesset, or the municipality. It doesn't provide anyone to defend my ethnic honor either, such as the time a clerk named Margalit, at the Ministry of Labor, screamed at me to "Get out of here and come back when you've learned to speak proper Hebrew!" It doesn't strike fear in Labor or Likud that there are maybe 100,000 of my ilk, and we want a say.

The phenomenon hit home at the last great gathering of Anglos, The Event at Wingate in 1995. Yitzhak Rabin came to address us, but was jeered and shouted off the stage by right wingers. In English. Afterwards, one of the organizers apologized to Rabin. "Ah, what do I care," he responded with a dismissive flick of his hand, "they're just a bunch of Americans."

From the Lotto



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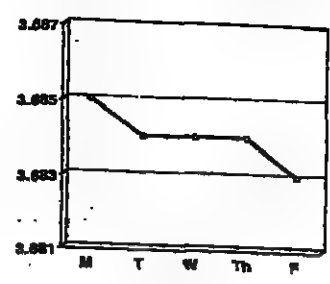
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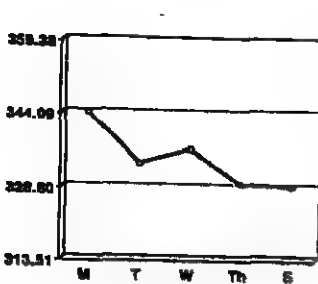
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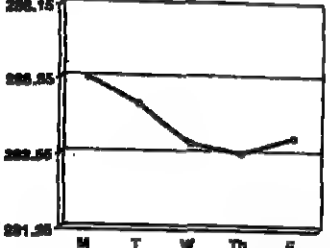


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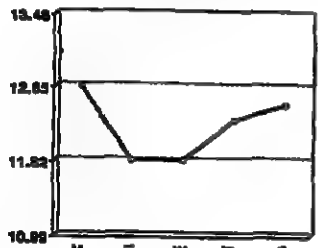
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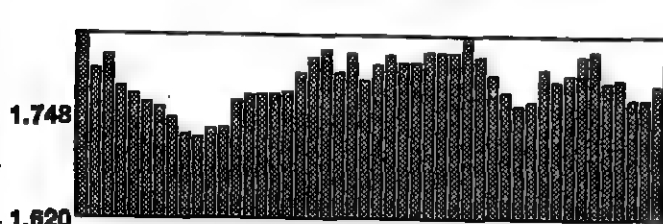


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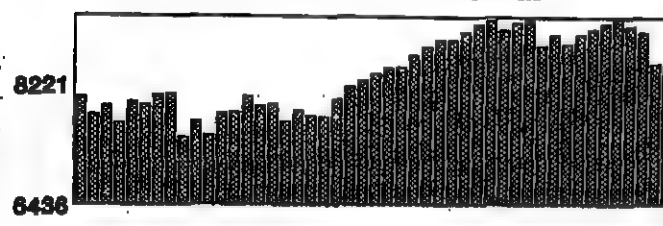
\$ per barrel of Brent crude



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July's M1 money supply jumps 4.5%

M1 money supply totaled NIS 21.1 billion in July, up 4.5% percent on the June figure, according to initial data published yesterday by the Bank of Israel.

This figure follows an updated 0.4% increase in June and a 0.5% fall in May.

Over the last 12 months, M1 has increased 10.5%. *David Harris*

Murdoch's Fox Group files for \$100m. IPO

Fox Entertainment Group Inc., owner of *The X-Files* television show and the Los Angeles Dodgers baseball team, on Friday filed with the Securities & Exchange Commission for a \$100 million initial public offering.

The company is a unit of Rupert Murdoch's News Corp. Ltd., which announced in June it planned to sell up to 20% of the business to the public in a stock offering. The deal has been expected to raise about \$2 billion to \$3 billion in one of the largest initial stock offerings of the year.

Read Nolte, News Corp. vice president for investor relations, said \$100 million was a preliminary figure.

"That number has no relationship to what we expect to raise," he said Friday. "We expect to raise billions."

The total number of class A shares in the offering and their price per share were not disclosed in the SEC filing.

Australia's News Corp. Ltd. indirectly owns all of Fox Entertainment's outstanding common stock. Immediately after the offering, it will own all of the company's issued and outstanding class B common stock.

News Corp. has said the Fox business will include all of its Twentieth Century Fox film studio, 22 TV stations, television programming and distribution and sports team assets.

Also folded in will be principal interests in the Fox/Liberty regional sports networks, the Fox Family channel and the Fox News Channel.

Aside from the Fox businesses, News also owns HarperCollins publishing, daily newspapers in the US, Britain and Australia, as well as whole or partial interests in satellite TV operations in Britain, Latin America, India and Asia. *Reuters*

Unique Technology wins Romanian contract

Unique Technology Ltd., a part of the Miloumor group, announced yesterday that it had won a \$10 million contract over three years to supply a system for monitoring electricity use to the Romanian Energy Ministry and electric corporation.

Romanian Privatization Minister Sorin Dimitriu, whose ministry opened an office at Miloumor subsidiary Resido Fibi in Ramat Gan while visiting here recently, said the system, Collectric, would result in savings in operations and help monitor electricity consumption in the country. *Nina Gilbert*

Herzliya biotech firm raises \$14.5m.

By NINA GILBERT

Combact Diagnostic Systems, a biotechnology company developing a machine to automatically detect bacteria in the urine, has raised \$14.5 million in a private placement as part of its third round of financing.

The Herzliya-based company intends to raise up to \$20m. in this round. The main investor in the round is BB Meditech AG, a Swiss company, which invested \$12m. BB Meditech is part of the Swiss Bellevue Asset Management group, which manages \$2 billion in assets.

The rest of the funds were invested by previous shareholders, including Clal Venture Capital, Gemini Israel, Ergar, and Primavera.

Company chief financial officer Yuval Tovias said an initial public offering by the company could take place in the third or fourth quarter of next year, if market conditions are suitable.

In the meantime, Combact is in advanced negotiations with a com-

pany in the US for a strategic partnership in which the American company would obtain exclusive worldwide rights to market the product, according to Tovias.

He said the product, which is patented, is expected to be ready for the market at the beginning of next year. The funds enlisted recently are to be used to complete the development of the product and bring it to market, Tovias said.

The machine can detect the presence of bacteria in urine within 15 minutes, whereas the technique used today has not advanced since it was invented by the Louis Pasteur and requires the specimen to grow for two days, he said.

"The machine detects whether there is something abnormal in the urine, based on a statistical analysis. In the next phase of the technology, it is to be able to identify the organisms," said Tovias.

The company's technology was developed in the Tel Aviv University incubator. The company, which started operations in 1994, has some 100 workers.

PM, Neeman unveil subsidized on-the-job training program

By DAVID HARRIS

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Finance Minister Yankov Neeman yesterday announced the details of two on-the-job retraining programs to be subsidized by unemployment-benefit funds.

The program was based on a proposal by Histadrut Chairman Amir Peretz, a member of the recently formed national economic-social council. However, Peretz described the final decision as likely to fail because of the "bureaucratic holes" into which he believes it is bound to fall.

While praising the idea, Manufacturers Association president and council member Dan Propper said unless there is renewed economic growth the plan will not be successful.

Other council members were not prepared to say how many jobs may be created as a result of the program, other than to say "thousands," but Propper admitted that there would certainly be no more than 10,000 new jobs.

The program was created during a meeting of a council subcommittee headed by Prime Minister's Office Director-General Moshe Leon, with members Ben-Zion

Zilberfarb and Yigal Ben-Shalom, the directors-general of the Treasury and Labor and Social Affairs Ministry respectively.

There are three key elements to the program:

- Employers taking on new staff aged under 40 in areas of high unemployment will receive a monthly NIS 800 stipend for each worker for three months, on condition they keep the workers for six months.

- Those employing workers aged 40 or older anywhere in the country will be paid NIS 1,000 a month per worker for six months as long as they keep the workers for at

least a year.

- In-factory training will be offered in classes of 12 participants for some four-six months, with the employers receiving NIS 132,000 per course on condition they offer graduates jobs for at least a year at the end of the course.

Announcing the measures, Neeman said the scheme will be officially published today, with registration initially taking place over the coming three months.

"The budget is unrestricted and will come instead of unemployment benefit payments," said Netanyahu. "This is an emergency

employment effort, not an attempt to create fake jobs. Training on the job is the best chance to find work."

In the Histadrut's original proposal, the money would have been received by the worker, not the employer. The final decision left Peretz disappointed.

"I fear leaving the operation of this system to the Labor Ministry and employers will mean it will fall into bureaucratic holes," said Peretz.

Propper called the scheme "a temporary solution. There must be a concerted effort to create new, long-term jobs."



\$650m. piece of cake
Partner Communications CEO Amikam Cohen (right) cuts a cellphone-shaped cake in Tel Aviv yesterday, as the new cellular-provider provider celebrated securing \$650 million in credit from a banking consortium. To Cohen's right are Elron president Uzia Gaili, Hutchison senior executive Ting Chen, Communications Ministry Director-General Daniel Rosen, and Partner CFO Graham Moses. (Sivan Farag)

Arms-maker Soltam sold for NIS 120m.

By DAN GERSTEINFELD

Koor Industries yesterday announced that it has signed an agreement for the sale of artillery supplier Soltam to the Mikal Group for NIS 120 million.

The move is in line with Koor's strategic plan of focusing on its core business while selling other holdings. Last year Koor announced plans to offer Soltam's shares on the stock exchange but the program was canceled.

The Mikal Group is led by Miko Gilat, former vice president of Israel Military Industries (IMI). Gilat said that an American defense company, which he declined to name, will join the group soon and acquire a minor stake in the company.

"We have already a letter of intent from this company, which is

one of the largest four in this field in the US," Gilat said. He added that the US company has all the necessary approvals.

Gilat added that the group intends to expand Soltam's activities.

"Soltam is a very good company and we have committed ourselves to keep all of the workers," he said. "Our aim is to expand its military activity."

Yokne'am-based Soltam was set up in the early 1950's by Koor, inspired by David Ben-Gurion's determination to develop a local arms industry. The company, which once employed a majority of Yokne'am's workforce, suffered from a series of bitter labor disputes during the '80s and early '90s.

Soltam is also the country's leading manufacturer of stainless-steel pots, which accounts for some 20 percent of its business.

TAAS in the black

Israel Industries-TAAS reported \$14.3 million in net earnings in 1997 in the first profit recorded since TAAS turned into a government company.

The TAAS profit represents a turnaround for the company, that turned from a Defense Ministry unit to a government company in 1989 and recorded losses of \$13.6m. in 1996 and \$109.7m. in 1995.

TAAS chairman Yaakov Lipschitz said TAAS's operating profit was \$23m. but the government was required to pay off previous debts and severance pay to dismissed employees that amounted to close to \$10m.

The company's financial audit was approved on August 11 after TAAS reached a settlement with the government to evacuate 300 dunams the company used in Ramat Hasharon. The agreement grants TAAS \$90m. and another \$20m. to resettle in another site.

Executives said TAAS sales in 1997 were \$512m. compared to \$509m. in 1996 and \$441m. in 1995. Sales in Israel, particularly

RESULTS

to the Defense Ministry, will comprise 60 percent of TAAS sales in 1998.

The company expects an 8% increase in total sales this year to

\$550m. Operating earnings for 1997 were \$15.2m., a 2.2% increase from the previous year. The profit margin was doubled from 1.4% in 1996 to 3% in 1997.

TAAS's employee level has remained stable over the past two years. It now numbers 4,037, down from 4,150 in 1996.

Reading between the lines... you have time for trading action until 11 PM.



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In the first week of August, analysts from three major brokerage firms suddenly became bullish and bearish about the market. But the correction had already taken place — so the advice came too late for many investors.

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Celebrating Babe – everything in excess

50 years after his death, the Bambino remains larger than life

Whether you believe he actually pointed to center field and predicted the most fabled hit in baseball history, there is one shot Babe Ruth did call.

Sitting in her New Hampshire home, an 81-year-old woman sighs. "Daddy rarely read books or went to movies, he said it would hurt his eyes, he warned me about the same thing," said Julia Ruth Stevens. "I ignored him. Now look at me."

Yesterday, on the 50th anniversary of George Herman Ruth's death, with the country celebrating its first sports hero through print and television and ceremony, his lone surviving child can see little of it.

A degenerative eye disease has left her legally blind.

But she knows what we are just beginning to understand.

"What happened with Daddy, it was always something you could just feel," she said. "It still is."

Indeed, today we feel it, embrace it,

the majesty and the mishaps, the talent and the turmoil, the legend and the big galoot of a right fielder who swallowed it whole.

Fifty years after his death, all of Babe Ruth's important records have been broken, yet he is larger than ever, a symbol of mammoth strength and childlike frailty during a time when our heroes are no longer big enough to handle both.

With a face like a seat cushion, a body like a bonbon, legs like twigs, and the smile of a little boy, he ran pigeon-toed on to the landscape as our war-weary country was looking for a personality.

During 21 years of big swings, he defined it.

Babe Ruth made America believe that nothing succeeds like excess.

Today we love home runs. We love to eat until we fall away from the table, grunting. We buy expensive things, throw expensive parties. We aren't afraid to laugh like a horse or cry like a baby. Sometimes our desires get us into trou-

ble, but hey, kid, we mean well, we'll try harder next time, OK? Babe Ruth made America believe, going from the hopelessness of Baltimore streets to the glory of the world stage and nearly back again.

In his final years, he fell into despair when nobody would hire him as a manager. Owners chuckled that they didn't think he could manage himself.

He died of throat cancer on August 16, 1948, at 53, gray and thin and wondering how his wonderful life had so quickly disappeared.

"I'm so glad to see you," he told his daughter shortly before his final breaths, as if he thought she had departed as well.

The thing is, our love for him didn't disappear. We had just momentarily grown bored. Not anymore. Today he's making a comeback as big as that final career home run he dramatically knocked out of Pittsburgh's Forbes Field.

Babe Ruth's image is on TV commercials, print ads, beer mugs, shirts, even a

restaurant in London. And what must this street-educated man be thinking if he looks down and discovers that he has his own web site.

The more we know about Babe Ruth, the more we want to know.

"It's amazing that so many people still love him, talk about him, write me letters about him," Julia Ruth Stevens said of her father.

"And none of them ever knew him."

Oh, but we all knew him. Maybe not for what he did back then, but for how he affects us today.

Babe Ruth practically invented the autograph. Nobody in history had signed as many, or as often, always for kids who reminded him of himself. Collectors be warned: He signed so much, he taught Yankee trainer Doc Woods to sign for him.

Babe Ruth's presence inspired phrases such as "Ruthian," meaning huge, and "out in left field," which referred to any kid dumb enough not to sit behind him in right.

Babe Ruth was one of the first stars to appear in ads in his underwear, squelching the long-held rumor he did not wear any.

There is one thing it appears Babe Ruth did not do.

Ruth did not call his home run against Chicago Cub pitcher Charlie Root in the third game of the 1932 World Series.

Research for this column, which involved several books, including *The Life That Ruth Built*, as well as ESPN and HBO documentaries, point to the same thing.

It seems Ruth was not pointing, but just angrily waving at the center field crowd after someone had tossed yet another lemon at his foot.

If he really did call the shot, why did none of the newspapers mention it the next day? Why didn't even Ruth mention it until the myth had grown the next spring?

Another myth is that baseball's greatest player was always embraced by the game he helped make famous.

When he retired during the 1935 season at 40, nobody would give him the one job he wanted, that of a manager.

"It was almost like baseball blacklisted my father," said Stevens, who recently published a warm family photo collection. "All this talk about him not being able to manage himself, that was baloney. They were just mad at him for salaries as a player."

Whatever the reason, many days in his early retirement were spent playing golf, then hustling home with the same question.

"He always asked Momma if there had been any calls for him," Stevens recalled. "And she always said no."

After losing out on one managerial opening, he returned home, put his head on the table, and wept.

The other legacy that Ruth never produced was that of another Babe Ruth. He had two adopted daughters, but no sons, fittingly confirming he would be the first, the last, the only. (Los Angeles Times)

Ruth: The Sultan of Suds

Babe Ruth died 50 years ago yesterday.

On the day he was buried, it was hot and steamy, a sweaty August in New York. Two of the pallbearers were old teammates, Joe Dugan and Waite Hoyt.

As he lifted the casket, Dugan, suffering in the heat, reportedly said to Hoyt, "I would give a hundred bucks for an ice-cold beer." Hoyt smiled and glanced at the coffin.

"So would the Babe," he said. "So would the Babe."

The old home town Although Ruth gained fame as a pitcher for the Boston Red Sox and a slugger for the New York Yankees, his career started in Baltimore, his hometown. Teams rode trains in those days and the Babe always remembered Baltimore.

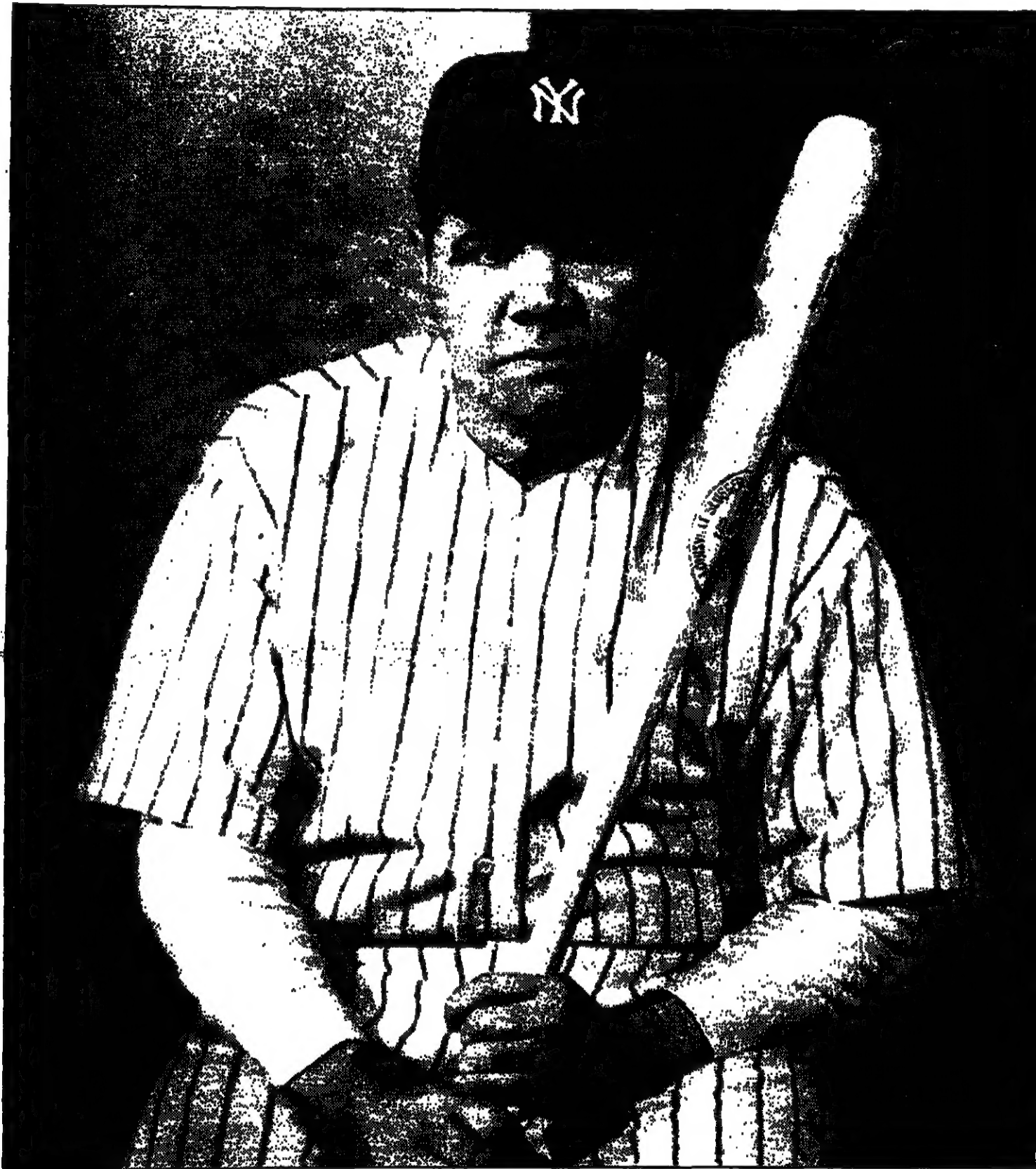
In response to a young Baltimore reporter's question years later as to whether he missed his hometown, he said, "I always look out the window when our baseball club passes by."

Remembered The Marshall Islands postal service is issuing a 32-cent stamp this week in honor of Ruth. It is the second such honor this year. The US Postal Service unveiled a "Decade-of-the-Twenties" stamp in May that featured Ruth.

Ties that bind Actor William Bendix played the role of Ruth in the 1948 movie, *The Babe Ruth Story*.

Their special bond was that, as a youth, Bendix was a battery for the New York Giants, who shared the Polo Grounds with the Yankees. Bendix began hanging around the Yankee clubhouse and became a favorite of Ruth, running errands and shining his shoes.

Babe and the Birds And finally from Kevin Malone, Baltimore Oriole assistant general manager: "Babe Ruth would be a good addition to the team right now. According to the local media, a 103-year-old slugger would fit in perfectly on an old team like ours." (Los Angeles Times)



IN HIS PRIME – Babe Ruth in 1927. Photograph by Nikolas Murray.

Giving up Ruth's 59th: The one that got away

NEW YORK – Paul Hopkins' birth certificate will say otherwise, but the man standing there cannot possibly be 93 years old. He walks without aid, he stands straight and firm. His mind is still sharp, like the curveballs he threw to Babe Ruth that late September afternoon 71 years ago.

Well, except maybe for that last curve.

Fifty years ago yesterday, baseball's greatest hero died, and his enduring legend was born. Caught forever in the swirl of that legend is Hopkins, who on September 29, 1927, made his big league debut. Hopkins, a right-handed pitcher for the Washington Senators, found that his first assignment was to pitch to Ruth with the bases loaded. The result: a grand slam, Ruth's record-tying 59th home run of the season.

"It was quite a blow," Hopkins said. "It took quite a while for that to wear off. I wanted to strike him out. I felt that I should have gotten him out."

Hopkins is back in the, er, limelight. He is part of an ESPN documentary on Ruth.

Paul Hopkins, the Washington Senators' pitcher, 6 feet, 175 pounds, is forever frozen at 23 years, 4 days.

That day in '27, Hopkins didn't want to talk about it. Now, he appreciates that people want to hear the story. It almost makes giving up a grand slam to your first-ever batter tolerable.

It was the bottom of the fifth inning at Yankee Stadium when Hopkins was summoned from the bullpen by Washington Manager Bucky Harris.

The Senators trailed 11-4 when Firpo Marberry, who had relieved starter Hod Lisenbee in the second inning – after Lisenbee surrendered Ruth's 58th homer – loaded the bases with none out.

"I didn't even realize until after I got on the mound that it was Babe Ruth," Hopkins said. "Then he strolled out from the Yankee

bench and walked up to the plate. I was not excited or awed."

Catcher Bennie Tate greeted Hopkins at the mound and offered what seemed sound advice.

"(Tate) came out and said, 'Let's throw this guy nothing but curveballs,'" Hopkins said. "I continued to throw curveballs to him and he was fouling them all off."

Hopkins worked Ruth to a full count, then tried one more.

"He finally got one and hit it up in the air, and I didn't think it was going very far," Hopkins said. "It landed about three rows in the stands in right field." Grand slam. Home run No. 59 for the Bambino, tying his record set in 1921.

"Next time he came up he hit a pop fly over the shortstop and got two bases out of it, because the outfield was playing pretty well back for him," Hopkins said. "I turned around and said to him, 'You were some lucky (on that one)'. And he said, 'Hey, young fella, after you've been around awhile, you'll find out just what I can do.'"

The next day, Hopkins saw Ruth hit his record 60th homer off Hopkins' roommate, Tom Zachary.

As a player, Hopkins would not see much more of Ruth. An arm injury limited his career to 11 appearances, one more in 1927 and nine in 1929 with the Senators and St. Louis Browns.

Hopkins has always followed baseball. He followed Roger Maris as he hit 61 in '61. He sees the likes of Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa today.

He says none were as good as the Babe.

"No comparison, he was the best hitter of any of them," Hopkins said. "They're going to break the record someday, no doubt. But the only reason they'll do it is because they've got better balls, better equipment. They have everything they want going for them."

(The Hartford Courant)

50 things about the Babe you may not have known

1. The "Baby Ruth" candy bar has nothing to do with Babe Ruth.

The Curtiss Candy Company named it after the late daughter of President Grover Cleveland. When Ruth tried to sell his own candy bar, the patent office rejected it.

2. For years, for unknown reasons, Ruth thought he was born on February 7 instead of February 6, which was on his birth certificate. When he realized his error, he shrugged, and continued to celebrate the wrong date.

3. He was not an orphan – his parents owned a bar, and he was placed in an orphanage/reform school because they couldn't handle him. Yet he circulated the story throughout his life to inspire orphans.

4. The incident that many agree led to his banishment to St. Mary's Industrial School for Boys, in Baltimore, occurred when he stole a dollar from his parents' bar and bought ice cream cones for all the children on his block.

5. In his final two years at St. Mary's – with his mother dead of tuberculosis and his father busy in the bar – he had no visitors. He said, "I am too big and ugly for anyone to come see me."

6. He began his career at St. Mary's as a left-handed catcher. He would put the right-handed mitt on his left hand, catch the ball, throw it in the air, drop the glove, catch the ball again with his bare left hand, and throw out runners attempting to steal.

7. Until his death, Ruth maintained that his favorite memory was the time he informed the other boys at St. Mary's he actually was going to be playing baseball for real money.

8. On Ruth's first spring training in 1914 with the International League Baltimore Orioles, coach Sam Steinman warned other players not to mess with the big rookie because he was a favorite of owner Jack Dunn. "He's one of Jack Dunn's babies," Steinman said. The name stuck.

9. Ruth's first home run as a professional baseball player, occurring in that initial spring training, was the longest ball ever hit in Fayetteville, N.C. It broke a record set by Jim Thorpe.

10. In that first year in professional baseball, he received one piece of fan mail ... from Brother Gilbert of St. Mary's.

11. Several years later, in an unexplained fit of rage, Ruth tore up 100 letters that had gathered in his Yankee locker. Upon piecing them back together, a trainer discovered \$6,000 worth of endorsement checks.

12. In his first five weeks in the major leagues with the Boston Red Sox, Ruth bought a car, got a license, was in an accident, had his license suspended, met and proposed to his first wife.

13. In Ruth's first World Series appearance, in 1915, he grounded out as a pinch-hitter against future Hall of Famer Grover Cleveland Alexander. The Yankees swept the Cardinals 15 years later; he would hit three homers in Game 4 against St. Louis – the last coming off Alexander.

14. In Ruth's first World Series pitching appearance with the Red Sox in 1916, he pitched 13 consecutive scoreless innings ... in one game.

15. The \$125,000 paid to the Boston Red Sox for Ruth by Yankee owner

Jacob Ruppert at the end of 1919 was more than Ruppert had spent to buy the entire Yankee franchise.

There were no players involved in the deal because all parties agreed no amount of players could equal Ruth.

16. Ruth learned about the sale while playing golf at Griffith Park in Los Angeles. He had just finished an exhibition with a group of pitchers against whom he hit 125 home runs in one hour.

17. In 1920, Ruth's first year with the Yankees, workers at the Polo Grounds created vertical foul lines to help umpires judge Ruth's mammoth blasts. This led to the invention of the foul pole.

18. Ruth was so popular during that first year in New York, he had a pay phone installed next to his locker.

19. At home, Ruth changed his unlisted phone number so much he often forgot it.

20. In 1920, the first year Ruth's home runs captivated the nation, he hit 54. Finishing second in the major leagues was St. Louis' George Sisler with 19. Ruth nearly doubled the major league record, and hit more than 14 of the other 15 major league teams.

21. Although reputed as a giant, Ruth stood only 6 feet 1 1/2. He was considered big because, at the time, he was four inches taller than the average major leaguer. Put 250 pounds on that frame, and you get the point.

22. In the spring of 1925, Ruth was so overweight and in poor health that when he missed a connection on a train ride to New York, the *London Evening News* reported he had died.

23. Babe Ruth was the first athlete to have a business manager, a young guy

named Christy Walsh, who met him by posing as a bootlegger's delivery boy.

24. Once Ruth showed up after the start of an 8 p.m. Yankee team dinner with no cap, torn shirt and uniform pants caked in mud. After that day's spring training game, he had lost track of time while playing with dozens of children in a sandlot down the street.

25. During another spring training game, reeling from a hangover, Ruth ran into a palm tree while chasing a fly ball and knocked himself unconscious.

26. Ruth once picked up Yankee Manager Miller Huggins – whom he despised and called "Little Boy" – and dangled him off a train.

27. During one day at Coney Island with Yankee teammates, Ruth ate four porterhouse steaks, eight hot dogs, and washed them down with eight sodas.

28. Ruth would end his all-night parties after Saturday Yankee games with a visit to dawn Mass, where he would throw \$50 into the collection plate.

29. Ruth, whose boarding school was all-white, once called a team of Cubans "greasers," and said one of their players was "as black as a ton and a half of coal in a dark cellar."

30. At one time Ruth swung a bat that was nearly one pound heavier than Mark McGwire's 33-ouncer.

31. In 1926, a year in which he had 47 home runs, Ruth also had 10 sacrifice bunts. McGwire has not had a sacrifice bunt in the last five years.

32. To end the 1926 World Series against the St. Louis Cardinals, in Game 7, with his team trailing by one run, running on his own, Ruth was thrown out trying to steal second base.

33. Ruth once was arrested by an overzealous public official in San Diego for breaking child labor laws. His crime was that he brought children from the audience on stage during his vaudeville act and gave them baseballs.

34. With the Yankees in 1927, Ruth made \$70,000 ... while Lou Gehrig made \$8,000.

35. Because of petty disagreements involving their wives and Gehrig's mother, Ruth did not speak to Gehrig for six years. The freeze lasted from 1933 until Ruth hugged him on Gehrig Appreciation Day in 1939. Moments later, Gehrig announced he considered himself the luckiest man on the face of the earth.

36. Once, while barnstorming in a prison, Ruth accused an inmate-umpire of being a robber, then pretended to call for the guards when one of the convicts stole second base.

37. In tradition with early German-American laborers, Ruth used to wear cabbage leaves under his cap to keep him cool.

38. Ruth never remembered anyone's name, even those of teammates who had been with the Yankees for several years. To save himself embarrassment, he called everyone "Kid."

39. When meeting President Calvin Coolidge during the hot summer of 1924, Ruth also apparently forgot his name, and simply said, "Hot as hell, ain't it, Prez?"

40. Johnny Sylvester, the little boy for whom Ruth reportedly promised a World Series homer, never even met Ruth until after that game in 1926. He was a sick child to whom Ruth mailed

two balls autographed by various members of the Yankees and Cardinals. The balls just happened to arrive before the fourth game, during which Ruth just happened to hit three home runs.

41. A year later, Ruth didn't even recognize the name Johnny Sylvester.

42. Ruth was hired as a freelance writer for a popular syndicated news service during the 1934 World Series. Once there, he casually told writers from three other publications about his plans to retire, promptly scooping himself.

43. While struggling toward the end of his career, Ruth was booed in Yankee Stadium.

44. The final wire story of his final game, which took place against Philadelphia on May 30, 1935, doesn't even mention his name.

45. While living in retirement on the 15th floor of a New York City apartment building, Ruth would drop used flashbulbs onto cars and soap into fountains.

46. During World War II, in an effort to upset their American counterparts, Japanese soldiers would yell, "To hell with Babe Ruth."

47. In the first Hall of Fame voting, 11 of 226 writers did not have Ruth on their ballots.

48. Ruth was never told he had throat cancer until, shortly before his death.

49. The heirs of Babe Ruth still earn as much as \$1 million a year in royalties from his endorsements.

50. On the day he hit the final home run of his career in 1935, he hit three, at Pittsburgh.

(Los Angeles Times)

4.10, 7, 10 - 11th Street Church S - Only on Paved

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Sports Editors
Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

Sosa belts 47th

HOUSTON (AP) — Sammy Sosa hit his 47th home run yesterday, tying him for the major league lead in homers and RBIs.

The fourth-inning solo shot pulled the Chicago Cubs slugging into a tie with St. Louis slugger Mark McGwire for the home run lead.

Saturday's big league roundup, Page 22

The homer over the right-field fence gave the Cubs a 1-0 lead in a game that had not been completed by press deadline.

Reds 8, Expos 1

Reggie Sanders singled, doubled, tripled and scored four runs as host Cincinnati took advantage of Montreal's ragged play to get a series sweep.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Tigers 6, Athletics 4

Bryce Florie struck out a career-high 10 and allowed five hits in 8½ innings to lead Detroit.

Twins 6, Red Sox 3

Matt Lawton tied a career high with four hits and Eric Milton started with five hitless innings, leading Minnesota to a win at Fenway.



VICTORY LAP — Fans cheer as Michael Schumacher celebrates in his Ferrari after winning the Hungarian Grand Prix. (Reuters)

Schumacher bounces back

German wins Hungarian GP, trails Hakkinen by seven

BUDAPEST (Reuters) — Ferrari's Michael Schumacher muscled back into contention for the Formula One title yesterday by winning the Hungarian Grand Prix while McLaren rival Mika Hakkinen was hit by mechanical troubles.

The 29-year-old German took full advantage of every opportunity he had while the championship-leading Finn struggled home sixth with a suspected shock absorber failure.

That meant Hakkinen's overall lead was cut from 16 points to just seven with four of the season's 16 races remaining.

The 32nd victory of Schumacher's storied career owed as much to the strategy devised by Ferrari's technical director Ross Brawn as to his own inspired driving.

The German later praised the team for sticking to a three-stops plan instead of their main rivals' decision to stop and change tires only twice on a track where overtaking is virtually impossible.

That meant that Schumacher had to drive

four sprints in the race — a great physical strain — for a victory which was received rapturously by a vast crowd of flag-waving German Ferrari fans who fired flares into the cloudy sky.

"This is the sort of result you dream about," Schumacher said. "I did have a dream and this is what we wanted."

Schumacher won in one hour 45 minutes and 25.50 seconds, 9.4 seconds clear of Briton David Coulthard in a McLaren with defending world champion Jacques Villeneuve third for Williams.

Briton Damon Hill was fourth for Jordan, German Heinz-Harald Frentzen fifth for Williams and Hakkinen sixth.

In the title race, Hakkinen has 77 points and Schumacher 70 with Coulthard third on 48. The last four races of the season are in Belgium, Italy, Luxembourg and Japan.

Schumacher conceded he had been worried about Ferrari's strategy early in the race when he was stuck behind Villeneuve.

"Finally, it all came out right for me. I had to play a bit of a waiting game, but it was worth it," he said.

Coulthard said he did not know what Hakkinen's problem had been and admitted he could not cope with Schumacher's pace once the double champion had emerged in front of him after the second round of pit-stops.

Until then, the two McLarens had led comfortably, but afterwards it was Schumacher all the way.

The race was processional in the early stages with Hakkinen, who started from pole position, leading until lap 47 when he pitted for the second time and lost the lead to Schumacher.

On lap 52, Schumacher went off the track and across the dirt and grass but recovered to record the fastest lap.

Hakkinen, by then hampered by mechanical problems, was simply unable to respond when Schumacher pitted a third time after 62 laps, emerging just ahead of Coulthard.

Owen blasts Liverpool to win

SOUTHAMPTON (AP) — Michael Owen showed he's pumped and ready to repeat his World Cup heroics in the Premier League as he scored one goal and set up another in Liverpool's 2-1 opening win over Southampton yesterday.

Owen broke a 1-1 deadlock in the 73rd minute when he slammed in a right-foot drive from 10 yards to clinch the match for Liverpool at the Dell.

Steve Staunton took a throw-in deep in Southampton's territory, Paul Ince jumped high and headed the ball back in front of goal and Owen, who scored 18 goals for Liverpool last season, completed the sequence.

Liverpool had gone on the attack early, with Ince attempting a drive from 25 yards after just 15 seconds and Owen just missing with his first attempt in the fourth minute.

The 18-year-old, who scored one of the best goals of the France '98 World Cup, set up the Reds' first in the 39th minute when he made room on the left flank and provided the perfect cross for Karlhenz Riedle to head into the net.

Southampton absorbed most of the pressure in the first half before opening the scoring in the 36th minute when Egil Olsen sent a low

high above a pack in front of goal and headed a cross past Reds' goalkeeper Brad Friedel.

But Liverpool remained composed and scored the equalizer three minutes later.

Liverpool, the glamor team of English top-flight soccer in the 1970s and 1980s, have not won the league since 1990, but have assembled a strong line-up for their 1998-99 campaign behind England stars Ince, Owen and Steve McManaman.

The Reds also took aboard former French national team coach Gerard Houllier to share the managerial responsibilities with Roy Evans in his bid to mold the league winning combination.

FA Cup and League double titlist Arsenal kick off its Premier League defense against Nottingham Forest at Highbury today.

The Gunners stars are eager to show their wares on the European stage in the Champions Cup but Arsene Wenger said he will ensure his players concentrate on one match at a time.

Aberdeen 3, Celtic 2

Champions Celtic scored an own goal, missed two penalties and had a man sent off as they slumped to a dramatic defeat in the Scottish Premier League.

Davenport tops Hingis in Acura final

MANHATTAN BEACH, CA (Reuters) — Red-hot Lindsay Davenport won her third title in as many weeks as she powered past world No. 1 and top-seeded Martina Hingis 4-6, 6-4, 6-3 yesterday to win the \$450,000 Acura Classic.

The hard-hitting California native earned her fourth title of the year in the battle between the world's top two ranked players and earned \$79,000 for the victory.

Hingis, who narrowly leads their head-to-head series 6-5, collected \$36,000 as runner-up.

After splitting the first two sets, Davenport scored a service break in the third game when Hingis belted a forehand long.

At 5-3, Davenport squandered her first match point but smacked her 33rd winner, a backhand winner up the line, to close out the one hour, 26-minute win.

Hingis advanced to the final, huffing and puffing and chasing down Arantxa Sanchez Vicario's shots in a hard-fought 6-4, 6-4 semifinal victory Saturday.

Hingis blew a 3-0 lead in the first set, then rebounded from a 1-3 deficit in the second. The Swiss teen-ager broke Sanchez Vicario

twice in winning the match's final three games.

Davenport beat fourth-seeded Monica Seles 6-4, 6-2 in 59 minutes Saturday night to reach her third final in as many weeks. Davenport won titles at Stanford and San Diego, where she notched her first career victory over Seles, also in the semifinals.

Davenport increased her match-winning streak to 12 with the victory over Hingis.

Hingis hasn't won a title since the Italian Open in May.

Rafter, Sampras to meet in ATP final

US Open champion Patrick Rafter advanced to a final for the second straight week with a 7-5, 6-0 victory over Yevgeny Kafelnikov on Saturday in the \$2.45 million ATP Championship at Mason, Ohio.

He was set to play for the title yesterday against Pete Sampras who beat Magnus Larsson, 7-5, 2-6, 6-1.

Rafter has reached the finals of four ATP tournaments this season, winning the first three. The Australian captured last weekend's tournament in Toronto and has won nine consecutive matches, including five against top-15 opponents.

"My whole game is coming together," Rafter said. "I'm serving well, I'm volleying well, I'm moving well. I've been returning well. That's been the biggest thing that's stood out. Usually I don't return this great."

Kafelnikov, a Russian ranked 10th in the world and seeded eighth in the tournament, lost to Rafter for the first time in four matches.

Rafter, ranked No. 3 in the world and seeded fifth in this event, won 24 of 29 second-set points and 26 of the last 31 points.

"I couldn't read which side Patrick was going to serve," Kafelnikov said. "That just shows that I was a little bit tired."

The players were on serve through the first two games before Kafelnikov poked a forehand volley into the net to lose his serve. Rafter set-up point with a blistering 105 mph ace and Kafelnikov followed by backhanding Rafter's second serve into the net to close the set. Rafter won the next 11 points to close out the scoring.

England beat Sri Lanka by 36 runs

England beat Sri Lanka by 36 runs in their 10-day triangular series match at Lord's yesterday in 40.3 overs.

England's innings: Nick Knight c Alapattu b Wickramasinghe 17, Alistair Brown c Alapattu b Wickramasinghe 12, Alec Stewart b Jayasuriya 51, Graeme Hick run out 38, Nasser Hussain b Dharmasena 38, Adam Hobbins b Jayasuriya 3, Robert Croft c Kulkarni b Perera 3, Ian Austin b Jayasuriya 8, Peter Martin run out 3, Damien Gough not out 1, Allen Maddy b Perera 1, Extras (11 lb, 12 w) 23, TOTAL 247 all out.

Fall of wickets: 14, 55, 132, 223, 254, 255, 256, 261, 264, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

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ISRAEL

Haifa 31/22

Netanya 32/19

Tel Aviv 32/19

Jerusalem 31/16

Beersheva 33/18

Eilat 41/24

Israel: Plenty of sunshine today. Highs 30-34 coast and mountains, 35-42 elsewhere. Clear at night. Lows 15-26.

EGYPT

Eilat 41/24

EUROPE WEATHER TODAY

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

ISRAEL CITIES

City	Today High	Today Low	Tuesday High	Tuesday Low	Wednesday High	Wednesday Low	Thursday High	Thursday Low
Ariel	37/58	14/57	39/100	18/61	37/58	18/54	37/58	18/54
Beersheva	33/51	18/45	34/53	20/58	34/53	21/70	34/53	21/70
Dead Sea	41/106	23/73	42/107	25/77	41/106	27/80	41/106	27/80
Eilat	41/106	24/75	42/107	26/78	41/106	27/80	41/106	27/80
Haifa	31/58	22/16	32/59	24/72	31/58	24/72	31/58	24/72
Jerusalem	31/58	18/51	31/58	17/52	30/56	18/49	30/56	18/49
Katza	38/100	13/55	39/102	15/59	37/58	17/52	37/58	17/52
Netanya	32/58	19/55	33/59	22/71	32/58	22/71	32/58	22/71
Tel Aviv	32/58	19/55	33/59	22/71	32/58	22/71	32/58	22/71
Thom	38/100	22/71	39/102	23/73	38/100	24/75	38/100	24/75

Weather (W): a-sunny, p-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, h-hurricanes, r-rain, dr-dry, b-breezes, sn-snow, h-hail.

INTERNATIONAL CITIES

City	Today High	Today Low	Tuesday High	Tuesday Low	Wednesday High	Wednesday Low	Thursday High	Thursday Low
Alexandria	29/75	14/57	29/75	13/55	29/75	13/55	29/75	13/55
Beijing	31/58	22/71	31/58	22/71	31/58	22/71	31/58	22/71
Berlin	28/79	17/52	28/79	14/57	28/79	14/57	28/79	14/57
Brussels	28/79	13/55	28/79	13/55	28/79	13/55	28/79	13/55
Calo	35/57	17/52	35/57	17/52	35/57	17/52	35/57	17/52
Chicago	31/58	20/58	31/58	18/54	31/58	18/54	31/58	18/54
Frankfurt	24/75	16/51	24/75	16/51	24/75	16/51	24/75	16/51
Hong Kong	31/58	25/77	31/58	25/77	31/58	25/77	31/58	25/77
Jerusalem	18/54	12/53	21/70	12/53	21/70	12/53	21/70	12